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MACLEAN'S

SEPT.
4th
2006

EXCLUSIVE

*The most intriguing
new face in Canadian
politics reveals how
he'd change the country*

THE IGNATIEFF MANIFESTO

Liberal front-runner
Michael Ignatieff



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Day 8,322 of the Liberal leadership campaign



MICHAEL IGNATIEFF

At last the smoke has lifted "I am to lead the world," Michael Ignatieff told you startled Liberals at the Sunny campus of Wilfrid Laurier University on Monday night.

Please "I want to lead this country, about the world," Ignatieff corrected himself. Well, scratch one theory about Ignatieff.

The Liberal leadership campaign was in Vancouver for the party's annual end-of-summer caucus extravaganza. And if they're in a punch drunk, forgive them. They're born at a while. They debated twice while they were in Vancouver—not filmed Liberal Party of Canada debates with national TV coverage, but debate all the same. "It really is a pleasure to be here on Day 8,322 of the campaign," Kim Dwyer drawled, his deadline for once working to someone's advantage.

Time for a new chapter. In the weeks after Paul Martin announced he'd vacate the Liberal leadership, I argued (mostly on my blog) that the party should take a long time to pick a leader and rethink its direction. My mistake. A freedom party can't seriously rethink its direction until it has a leader, and the Liberals have become quite malleable during the endless race to their next convention. They could probably have tamed the whole process at St. Louis, but we're wrapping up by now.

By the good news is that the Liberal leadership campaign is closer to its end than its beginning. At the end of September, party members across the country will elect delegates to the convention that will be held two months later in Montreal. So members have only about six weeks to decide who they support for the next fight against Stephen Harper. And the delegates they select will have less time, after that, to decide how they will argue out a leadership on the convention floor. Ignatieff, the patterned Harvard prof who returned to Toronto and the Liberals only last year, remains the big question. Or two

of them: can he command enough support to win an a first ballot? And if not, can he grow to victory in later votes, or should he worry about others catching up?

His discourse and manner suggest Ignatieff is counting on the eventual support of Liberals who, today, prefer/abhor candidates. At St. Louis, and again the next day during a debate on women's issues at the Vancouver bylaw, Ignatieff positioned himself as the No. 1 fan of every other Liberal in the room.

Especially out here in British Columbia, Stephen Dean, whom you know, and Gary Kennedy, who was lately Ontario's education minister, got a lot of attention from Liberals. Bob Rae gets a lot of respect—let me list a lot of Liberals who fret that someone else won't support Rae because of his catastrophic loss in Ontario premier, but who themselves believe he's a fine guy. There are pockets of support for Kim Dwyer, who has recently become a lumbering hard of



I have a hunch an academic will be the next leader of the party. I won't say which one.

He urged Liberals to get more B.C. MPs elected to accompany "this good man, Bob Doherty"—obvious enough, since Doherty, a young B.C. MP, supports Ignatieff. But Ignatieff also applauded "the good work done by Stephen Dean," and "the good work done by Kim Dwyer, and," he took pains to quote something "Scott Branson" as wisely said. "He disagrees to perfectly can be done." I wasn't wearing respectful disagreement with my colleague and friend Bob Rae.

He can be scrappy. On New Democrats, who had the opportunity not to roll over in January when Paul Martin needed their votes. "We have to say to them, 'High moral principles? Give me a break. You fight elections at the darkest spot anywhere ever seen in Canada.'" He can be liberal. "In politics, we are in the desert, because, ladies and gentlemen," he has stood at the front lines. "We are in the middle of the worst Taliban offensive since I was elected." "I've seen the Taliban up close and personal. You do not want them to win."

He is working hard to win the deal. He wants to win that so badly you can practically see steam coming out of his ears. He does not have it in the bag.

Liberal mythology, and for the uneducated but very pointed lawyer Martin Malin. He made much support for Ignatieff to pocket it all. I bought all 43 Liberals on Monday and Tuesday—Bills, senators, staffers, campaign volunteers—and asked them to rank their top three leadership preferences. Let us not do the horribly unscientific nature of my inquiry by ignoring first choices, except to say Ignatieff received more first mentions than the others, but not quite half.

Dean and Rae tied for second or third mentions, at 20 each (but Rae in the first choice of very few Liberals). Kennedy was mentioned, as a second or third option, 13 times. Dwyer, nine times. Brown, eight. Michael Ignatieff was mentioned, as second or third choice, only five times by 43 Liberal guinea pigs. He is the British India Elite of Liberal leadership candidates: those who like him, like him a lot. Those who don't like him, like him a lot. I have a hunch an academic will be the next Liberal leader. For the moment, I'll refrain from saying which one. ■

ON THE WEB For more Paul Wells, visit his blog at www.macleans.ca/oldnews/

REINHOLD JANKE

Weird bedfellow Sacha Trudeau and me



SACHA TRUDEAU

When Alexander "Sacha" Trudeau came to a minimum security removal centre to visit his son, Alex, imprisoned under a security certificate, he found the co-president "cool," "tasteful," and "vibrating." As he wrote in *Maclean's* in June. From the moment he saw the "orange-clad stranger," Trudeau felt him to be "kind and gentle," a man he would trust "in the ends of the earth." So he offered to post surety for Alex while he awaited deportation.

Alex, a Syrian national, arrived in Canada in 1999 from Saudi Arabia on a forged United Arab Emirates passport, which he later destroyed. He had also forged a Syrian passport. He neglected to tell immigration authorities about his time fighting with the mujahideen in Afghanistan and Tajikistan and his connections with the Wahhabi brand of Islam—no good addresses for a liberal and gentle man.

After admission as a refugee, he made a name in the academia of Canadian life as a man who could procure false documents, which he did for Nobel at Montreal, later arrested in the United States. In 2001, a security certificate was signed. Alex has been fighting his way in Canada ever since. More-while, he has been in solitary confinement for four years in what Madame Justice LeBel called "unacceptable" conditions.

Had Canadian law been followed, Alex's Trudeau must be an accommodation in his life with his son, even if he is a security risk. As a parent of a son, in camera legis, with the power to put people in prisons, whether citizens or not, even for a week more than seven, without being charged or having full knowledge of the evidence against them, does the value of a liberal democracy? We are dealing with a new enemy, cunning, malicious and dangerous, who needs to be controlled, that not by throwing the rule of law out the window

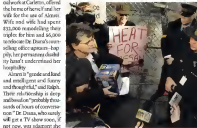
Once his case was on the map, a number of people sent me text for Alex. There were useful actors like Alexander, who after two visits could tell the courts that Alex was a man of "faith and tolerance...in the ancient spectrum of Islam," and others who were merely useful, like Dr. Karim Turk of UBC law, founder of a firm friendly with the Muslim Association of Canada. I had never didn't know Alex, but he could give the court a learned disquisition about how many young men went to Afghanistan to help orphans and to humanitarian work.

Then came the warm-hearted Canadians straight out of the theatre of the absurd. Dr. Diana Ralph, an overseas disability leave from her position as assistant professor of social work at Carleton, offered the home of hers if and her wife for the use of Alex's wife and with had spent \$33,000 renovating their office for him and \$4,000 to relocate Dr. Dean's consulting office; another hop ply, her personal disability had been underwritten her hospital.

Alex is "gentle and kind and intelligent and funny and thoughtful," and Ralph, their relationship is deep and loving. "I probably three weeks of hours of conversation," Dr. Dean, who surely will get a TV show soon, if not now, was adamant: the

idea of security threat, and knows much of the evidence. The real difficulty comes for those who have never been intimidated by Sacha Trudeau. It is the Muslim down the street who, through some fairly innocent circumstances such as going out with the sister of someone who might have connections to a terrorist group, has the problem. Next comes the RCMP at the door, and even if he can get away, he can't find out all the accusations or the evidence for them.

How did we get here? What happened to due process? Look back at the Cold War, when it was easy for the RCMP or a post-war spy to label men into Communist American or an Nazi and let severe cases, and the immigration authorities do the rest, as with



Then came the warm-hearted Canadians straight out of the theatre of the absurd

was not being handcuffed. It is not possible to fake the compassion she has seen Mr. Alex's case; she is a Jewish lesbian, saying that she "goes to God to judge."

In the slide page category, this was newly topped by Mr. Trudeau's statement that his "son," as he told the judge, "is not to know about Mr. Alex's case." This goes some way, I suppose, to explain Alexander's presence to Fidel Castro on his 80th birthday, which concluded with the amazing accusation that "Cuba's ally always had provided that they, and they alone, had failed." Just why people risk lives to escape from him, work, or in a case. That Alexander Trudeau appears the light of day is the President Reagan's statement about Teddy Kennedy's wife qualification for high office was surviving childhood.

Alex's case is a case that has admitted most allegations against him, apart from the charge

John Demjanjuk, falsely accused of being "Dane," the psychotic concentration camp guard. Look at the disgusting case of Iqbal Zairi, Canada's first Islamic cleric, deported after spending years in prison under a security certificate. Our Supreme Court elected review of his case, our Canadian Civil Liberties Association moved, but did little. Zairi was an aboriginal human, but no security threat. Far more dangerous than his friend was the procedures that asked him.

Try the courts on an almost impossible position: say others can no more be released than apologists for terror. With no evidence fully shown, how can a judge not either make a ruling or ask for more evidence, who on deciding a person in public are dismissed to let him confirm their "immunity of the office" in the Sudan. No one who is marked, "highly dangerous and of the nature of the case" will be right" or coming in to selling dupes like Sacha and Dr. Dean. Pray for a Solomonic ■



STORY OF THE WEEK—FIRE IN THE SKY

On Tuesday, a Russian passenger jet en route to St. Petersburg crashed in eastern Ukraine. The Tupolev 154 aircraft, operated by Russia's Fellova Airlines, vanished from radar screens minutes after it sent out a distress call. Among several conflicting explanations for the crash were turbine failure and faulty equipment. Russian and Ukrainian officials agreed that it was not a terrorist attack. At least 270 people, including an estimated 45 children, were believed to be dead.

Good news

Bad guys suffer

Global anti-terrorism forces made some meaningful headway this week. On Tuesday, U.S. District Magistrate was charged with terrorism-related offenses related to an elaborate plot to blow up U.S. board planes recently uncovered by U.S. officials. Nine members of the Tamil Tigers self-defense group, including four Canadians, were apprehended after they attempted to buy missiles from U.S. agents. And Insurrection was encouraged, only to be overthrown by a package proposed by Western nations, saying it was prepared to engage in "serious talks" about its nuclear enrichment program. We're not holding our breath—some Iranian officials are still talking tough, and Iran has given no indication it will abide by UN demands to halt its nuclear work by Aug. 18 as face-nations—but President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's rhetoric clearly backed up a corner.

Time for action

The Canadian Medical Association has cleared Dr. Brian Day, a pioneer in a private hospital in Vancouver, of its new position. His ethics charge that he advocates privatized medicine, but that he just wants some private-sector flexibility on the public system. Day's election is particularly good news in a week when Health Minister Tony Clement appeared to waver on a federal promise to guarantee universal patient wait times. In selecting the energetic Day as spokesperson, Canada's doctors may be sending a powerful message with the copy process. It's time for practical solutions.

Doing the right thing

In a recent radio interview to promote *When the Levees Break*, his

new HBO documentary about FEMA's incompetence in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, director Spike Jonze recounted the tale of a New Orleans parish priest who was shocked when a group of Canadian Mounties were the first to arrive and offer help to his congregation. "How is it that a company of Dudley Do Right can make it to New Orleans from Vancouver—and they had horses, too?—before the federal government?" Jonze asked his interviewer. "That's crazy!"

A cut you won't feel

So much for spare change. Just by two months after Stephen Harper slashed the federal sales tax by one percentage point, Statcan Canada announced the rising cost of everyday goods has already cancelled the anticipated windfall. In July alone, the price of fuel rose 4.6 per cent, while the cost of beef that jumped 7.4 per cent. If it's any consolation, the cost of a restaurant meal fell by 0.7 per cent. As long as you didn't dine there.

Bad news

Private claims that the conflict would soon certainly have been obtained by force and that Iran is only looking to satisfy international criticism with a misbegotten justification for allowing a prominent intellectual.

A lotto money

The lottery dreams of two Canadian men were cruelly dashed this week. Last Monday, 63-year-old Hyman Mafflet of Quebec was dared to find that his members had won him the \$40-million Lotto 6/49 jackpot, only to discover that the Montreal Gazette had printed the wrong number. Mafflet's lawyer, who says his client has a heart condition and has been incapacitated since he learned of the misprint, suing the paper for compensation. Meanwhile, Christian Kerech, a father of five from Winnipeg, thought he'd won \$110,000 in the same Lotto 6/49 draw when one of his six regular numbers was announced. Unfortunately, the man held charged with purchasing his ticket last week had neglected to do so. Kerech took a more philosophical approach to the bad news, telling the CBC that the jackpot was clearly not meant to be his. Besides, he said, people play too much evil on money.

Still no HBO

According to the Hollywood Reporter, actor Jovan Gendolin, star of *The Sopranos*, signed a three-year deal with HBO this week to develop original content for the network's through-the-production company, Arribey Films. We assume the deal is final. Tony Soprano will do great things. Although we'll probably have to read about it in the *Times* (and Reporter), since we still can't access HBO in Canada. ■

FACE OF THE WEEK



CORPORAL BENJAMIN ZEHET is greeted by his mother and two children after returning from a tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Sweet mother of God

Dental researchers in New York are developing a candy with cavity-fighting powers. Scientists say it's infused with Caviston, a compound that has proven more effective than fluoride at preventing cavities—could be available within a year. In other candy news, employees at Budaya Chocolate in California believe the Virgin Mary has revealed herself in the form of a column of chocolate droppings. The tiny red dots were found under saint busts. Mafflet and his flock on display in the company gift shop, surrounded by devout adherents.

'Confession'

Supporters of Razan Jahanbegloo, the Iranian Canadian philosopher who has been detained in an Iranian prison with no charges or trial since April, were dismayed by reports that she had confessed to plotting a non-violent revolution in the country. According to the Iranian newspaper *Resalat*, the country's pro-revolutionary cleric Qorbanolah Dastgheibzadeh said Jahanbegloo admitted to trying to incite a "violent revolution," and that she apologized for her "mistake." Human rights ac-



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REPORTER

MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON WHO SITS WHERE, BADLY DRESSED MPS, AND TONY'S BLOCK



refuse to sit next to their House neighbours, the Bloc-Québécois. Parties also have to consider the diverse matter of size. "There are some fairly well filled-out seats in the government. It's like—a couple of the larger guys look pretty confined," says Redman, who won't name names, although the image of XXXL Conservative MPs Joe Poonson (Ridge-Middleton/London) and Larry Miller (Peace-Grey-Oxton/Seabrook) squeezed together does come to mind.



CLASHING: (Inset) Gaggen.

WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO SIT NEXT TO HIM?

An odd question going back to class, their minds are filled with important things, like who will be sitting next to them. It's a bit of a joke on the sound of "Liberal" with perfectly bad luck, the caucus has running down the aisle, then having them to carry, party whip Karen Redman (Kitchener-Grand River) is coming up with a new idea: seating plan for when Parliament resumes on Sept. 18. Redman says Paul Martin will get a good seat, as will some possible cabinet ministers. "There are also the special requests: some Liberal MPs have said they don't want to sit next to their House neighbours," she says. "There are some fairly well filled-out seats in the government. It's like—a couple of the larger guys look pretty confined," says Redman, who won't name names, although the image of XXXL Conservative MPs Joe Poonson (Ridge-Middleton/London) and Larry Miller (Peace-Grey-Oxton/Seabrook) squeezed together does come to mind.

PARLIAMENT: (Inset) Karen Redman.



"The How To People." Besides getting her name right, Gaggen is hoping some MPs want to-school shopping for a more appropriate wardrobe. She feels strongly that women in the House should wear jackets if they are to be taken seriously.

She was particularly disappointed that a few Bloc Québécois women MPs she spotted in the last session were in "T-shirts with holes in them."

Traditionally, back to school is a time for meeting new people, but Bloc Québécois MP/Cherise Gaggen was a little shocked when she approached Health Minister Tony Clement as a recent recruit at Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum as a new member of the company. She was honouring Canadian AIDS pioneers with Stephen Lewis and Louise Binder. Before the health minister spoke (he was standing next to a demonstrator), Gaggen started chatting with him and realized he had no idea who she was. She had to tell Clement she too was an MP (elected in 1995, the original Bloc claim), not to mention the Bloc's health crisis.

THE KARAOKE CHAIR

If the Liberal leadership were more based on karaoke skills, Carolyn Bennett would be the front-runner. "She is the champ," insists Ken Dryden. "Carolyn would perform in our." Bennett explains that her office (a longed-for Dryden's to a karaoke competition while ago. "It's as good as she can do it." "Not quite," says Dryden, who claims Bennett knows every single Broadway song. So he did

Dryden has his karaoke skills? "My father liked to sing lyrics in church," says the hockey legend. "All of us were singing types at home. We weren't say good, but with singing in our we don't have to be."



LIBBY DAVIES picks up traffic in Toronto.

LUCKILY, LIBBY DIDN'T NEED A WETSUIT THIS TIME

NDP House leader Libby Davies helped stop busy Blue Street traffic in Toronto for two minutes (a drop in the global bucket) as part of a demonstration to save lives, the safe drug injection site in her Vancouver East riding. The government must decide soon if it will close the special Criminal Code exemption that keeps the site open. When a protest marshaled on one of the five buses carrying demonstrators confronted that he had been conspired for duty at the last minute and so didn't have much time to organize, the MP jumped in with some advice on how to make sure the entire scene was properly blocked. Davies' demonstration skills go back decades: she once dressed a winter and swam around a U.S. warship to protest nuclear weapons. ■

Mitchel Raphael can be contacted at mitchelraphael@rogers.com

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'All the major turning points in the Middle East have been fantasy scenarios. You always have to dream.'

FORMER MOSSAD CHIEF EPHRAIM HALEVY TALKS TO LINDA FRUM ABOUT THE WAR IN LEBANON AND WHO WON AND WHO LOST

Q There are certainly more than enough Israelis against the government. For example, members of the military's elite Alon Brigade are reportedly angry at the government's decision to pull out of Lebanon. This is a major turning point in the war, isn't it?

A If that is the way the soldiers feel then this has to be a turning point in the war, and whether it's justified or unjustified is not an issue. A third party is irrelevant. If soldiers felt that they had not been properly prepared, or that they had been given orders which they didn't understand, or that in some way or another, their freedom of action and initiative has been restricted, it is not as if this could affect their security. Their freedom of action which cannot easily be put aside.

Q But as a strategic level there's a feeling in Israel that the war was not well fought. The military and political leadership missed it. There was no plan. Or at least, no good plan. A I don't think this is true. I think there was a plan. Obviously the plan did not obtain the desired result, so you can say that since the plan did not obtain the result, there were the plans not a good plan. But the desired result can be assessed in many ways. Did we support Hezbollah entirely in the way that we hoped for by the power that he in turn? No, this was not achieved. Was it possible to achieve that? As you know, the military claims now that they told the government in ad-

vance that this was not something which was within their power. If Hezbollah could be weakened strategically, crippled. Several things would be needed out to Hezbollah, but that would not be something which would end in the complete destruction of the Hezbollah. But there is another way of looking at it, and that is that one of the major considerations in any war such as Israel has fought has been to see as many lives as possible of the fighting force, and from this point of view, yes, lives were lost but the number of lives lost in all of this was around 250, 160 people, including the civilian population, over a period of a month. This compares to, let's say, the Six Day War, where we had 700 people killed in six days, or the Yom Kippur War where we had 2,000 dead and 10,000 wounded in a period of about 3 1/2 weeks. So, how do you assess about it? It's not an easy thing to do.

Q Isn't it inevitable that military action will remain in a matter of weeks or months? Contrary to UN Resolutions 1701, Syria and Iran are already rearming Hezbollah. And since no other international force seems willing to disarm them, Israel will soon be obliged to go back in and try again? A I think that this was a mistake. It was a mistake to one of two things. Either it was a mistake to a second round, in which the stakes will be higher and the forces determined to break will be greater and the results will be different. It also could be a mistake to something else. I know that the perspective

was that Israel did not win this war. But a few things have happened here which do not make this a total victory to either side. Israel claims, in the words of the chief of staff, they won on points. Winning on points is not a victory, because in order for us to achieve what we wanted should have been a knockout. Whereas from Hezbollah's point of view—this was the Hezbollah—it didn't need to win the war. Survival is a major point to victory. Their one aspect to it. These are ideas. Number one, much of the infrastructure of the Hezbollah in the south was indeed destroyed. They lost 900 to 1,000 fighting men.

Q Out of how many? A Out of between 3,000 and 4,000. That's a very high ratio. All the Hezbollah infrastructure was destroyed in the civilian sector. Hezbollah began many, many years ago in southern Lebanon by doing two things: purchasing much of the firearms in the country, and purchasing most of the drug assets. They wanted to create a situation whereby all the people would be beholden to them for their livelihood, and 3) they wanted to start building a social system, a health system, similar to what Hamas has done in the territories. Now all this has been destroyed and there is a rush between competing powers in the region about who is going to do the rehabilitation. What is the Hezbollah handing out money

to the population, or is it going to be Saudi Arabia and Kuwait who are going to compete with Hezbollah? And it could well be that on this score Hezbollah's success will be needed. Hezbollah doesn't have unlimited resources. It's now doing out some of \$12,000 per person to people whose houses have been damaged in the strife.

Q There is a power struggle in Lebanon between the groups of Rawani and Saad Al-Hariri and the groups of Israel? A In the eyes of the population in the south, what will occur for them is who rehabilitated them. Was it the Saudi Arabians, or the Kuwaitis? Or was it Hezbollah? There was, by the way, a very strong sense on television, the Iranian handling of American money, American dollars. It's a Big Satan, the United States, but when it comes to paying the citizens of southern Lebanon, what the Iranians do is pay with the dollar, the shilling dollar.

Q That's rich. A As what I think will happen is this. If the ceasefire doesn't hold, if for instance the Lebanese army does not immediately deploy along the border, if an international force does not materialize, if arms begin flowing in large quantities from Syria to Lebanon—all these ingredients for the ultimate breakdown of this UN resolution—when this happens, sooner or later I think there will be a negotiation of hostilities. Now, here again, talking about failure and success, or victory and defeat, almost from day one those who are for a ceasefire were Hezbollah, the Iranians and the Syrians. Israel didn't risk for a ceasefire. The Israeli didn't risk for a ceasefire, and those who tried for a ceasefire knew they were taking far a corner, because apparently every day that went by more and more of their assets were being destroyed or damaged in almost an irreparable way, and even the president of Israel, when he was in the Muslim House of State Conference in Baghdad, made the following very, very strange statement. He said, "Obviously the only solution to the problem is that Israel would cease to exist, but in the meantime we need a cease fire." Why do you need a ceasefire if you don't want Israel to exist? Let this war go on. That might still highlight aspects of weakness on the part of Israel.

Q Or a brilliant maneuver. They succeed in opposing Big Satan as an official referee. It's up to him to decide who is in violation of the ceasefire and who isn't. It is the capability of doing this conflict after this just one way. A The first of the matter is that if the international force is not in place, that Iran will not be able to determine who violated what

One of the purposes of a ceasefire is to restore what would be that it would be able to restore what happened, but the UNIFIL, this also, depicted first which is there, but no capability whatsoever of determining who did what, and certainly whatever they say is lacking credibility. Now, the French have decided, as you know, to send a force to the major districts of which is in French hands. If the international force will not go off the ground, then it might well be that this will result in a further expansion of hostilities rather than a last one.

Q And yet, you spoke of Israel's reluctance to lose large numbers of casualties. A As the beginning, I think the strategy that the Israelis would be more effective than at you. Once this didn't happen, the alternative strategy was employed. I suggest that there will be those who will argue the effectiveness of one way and those who argue the other way. I don't want to project myself as a military strategist. Military strategy was necessary as a consequence when I was around.

Q Your area of competence, one of them, was targeted assassinations? A No. My organization was not involved in this kind of activity. This was all part of the IDF security service operations in the Gaza Strip and so forth. Some Israeli reports attributed it to me. But that I would not agree to do, but I don't want to take credit for what I didn't do.

Q But enough, but let me ask you for one of the aspects of this campaign was to take out Hezbollah personally, do you think, if intelligence permitted, a targeted assassination of Hezbollah command as a desirable move? A That would be something for the prime minister to decide.

Q If correct, but I'm asking you as a purely strategic, theoretical level. A I know, but there's no such thing as a pure strategic theoretical level. Everything is related to circumstances at that moment in time, and the therefore nobody can say strategically, theoretically, what you should do at a given moment.

Q After the two Israeli soldiers were kidnapped in Lebanon, you advocated that Israel should enter into direct negotiations with them for their release? A When I said we should not be released without the release of the two soldiers, and if we have to do for the release of the hostages, let's deal directly with those who have the power and authority to make the decision. I know my name is not popular in Israel; as the moment, well, I was severely criticized. I still believe that,

when you have an enemy like Iran, which is the most deadly enemy that Israel has ever had, and the means of the threat which they have potentially is a nuclear threat. Nevertheless, I believe there is merit in dealing directly with your enemy. I see nothing—maybe—out of such a direct negotiation or contact or dialogue something can come out of this is possible.

Q What can take Israel's phone call? A I'm not sure. What I'm saying is I believe that if the United States will find itself negotiating with the Iranians on the issue of the nuclear containment program of the Iranian and their intention to obtain nuclear military capabilities, if the United States is going to be there, Israel should be there too, and we should ask the United States to allow us to be close to their side. Because the issues that will come up there will not only be the nuclear issue but other issues.



'It's a Big Satan, the U.S., but the Iranians pay the citizens of southern Lebanon with the almighty dollar'

Q That sounds like a lot of fantasy scenarios, doesn't it? A The Middle East is full of fantasy scenarios. All the major turning points in the Middle East have been fantasy scenarios. If five days before Saddam came to Jerusalem I would tell you, "Look, Saddam is going to come to Jerusalem," you'd say, "That's a fantasy." When I came up with the idea that we should peace with Jordan, the immediate reaction was that this was the result of fantasy. In order to bring a change in the Middle East you always have to dream and enter the realm of fantasy. ■

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SPENCER PLATT



IS THIS THE NEW RAINMAKER?

His dad made Trudeau a winner. Ian Davey wants the same for Ignatieff.

BY JOHN GORDON — Michael Ignatieff doesn't have much political experience, and it often shows. The literary author and Toronto MP who is leading the Liberal leadership race promises plenty of publicity, but not without taking realistic risks. One day he muses about the need for a "tormenter" — fighting words out of Alberta say. On another he remarks that he's "not living alone" about the Israeli bombing of Gaza — a callous-sounding remark, even if he also called the death of civilians in the Lebanese village a tragedy. So how come Ignatieff's front-running campaign doesn't seem to have been slowed by the verbal speed bumps? His fans guess that his awareness is confined by during ideas and not feared hell but focused for more than the occasional glib quip. But party insiders tend



to point out that behind the sometimes unbridled candour is a very sharp and steel team, led by campaign director Ian Davey. He is the son of none other than Keith Davey, the legendary Liberal organizer of the 60s and 70s and known as "the Rainmaker". The son, Davey, now 40 and living with Alzheimer's disease, was the quintessential Canadian election strategist in the era when Theodore B. White's *The Making of the President 1860* codified and psychologized the task of political image making for the new TV-driven campaign. It's impossible, of course, to avoid comparisons with his son now taking up the family trade. But there are key differences. Take the way he's signed on to guide a high-maintenance intellectual-turned-politician. Keith Davey was recruited into Pierre Trudeau's inner circle only after Trudeau's government was buckled down to minority status in 1973, showing his new boss the way back to a majority in 1974. But Ian Davey, 48, was in on the ground

floor with his would-be philosophizing in fact, Davey is largely credited with coaxing Ignatieff to make the jump from Bay League academics to the Canadian political arena. The story involves his father. In delivering a guest lecture at the University of Toronto in 1998, Ignatieff had an impressed Keith Davey that the old pro resembled to a friend that he saw in the experience and the risk-taking of a prime minister. Not years later, with the federal Liberals at their nadir in the sponsorship scandal, Ian Davey was part of a group of worried partners who took it upon the mission to encourage the fresh leadership talent. His father's assessment of Ignatieff was passed along to him by party stalwart Marco Bonta, and so in late 2004, Davey and two Liberal lawyers from Toronto decided to win Ignatieff in Cambridge, Mass., where he was teaching at Harvard. That meeting led to his decision to return to Canada, after spending most of his adult life in England and the U.S., to win a seat in Parliament, and then seek to succeed Paul Martin as leader. As his father's son, Davey might be expected to be a damn political operator. But he isn't quite fit the mold. He isn't clever or witty, but a Toronto TV producer, whose credits include programs like September 11, a new-hour documentary on the epic Canada Russia hockey summer series. (His current project as producer and co-writer is a planned movie for TV about the Second World War campaign.) He has dubbed at the fringes of the Liberal party, briefly backing John

Manley's short-lived bid to dethrone Martin the leadership in 2003. Davey quit, though, when he felt for a more hard-hitting approach to try to upset Martin's reign. His backing out is still viewed by some Manley loyalists. But other Liberals are more ready to mention the fact that Davey was not a hard-line supporter of either Martin or John Manley during their long battle for control of the party, which allows him to position himself — by omission Ignatieff — as untainted by that bitter intramural struggle. Still, having kept out the Clintons — Martin decided Davey didn't build up credibility as an operator. One source Ignatieff's backer says says Ignatieff's about that inexperience was assigned by the prominent role given in the Ignatieff camp to the likes of Senator David Smith, a formidable Ontario campaign strategist under Clinton. Anyway, Davey doesn't sell himself as an expert on campaign strategy. "I'm interested in the message," he says.

A key of the son of that convincing now has to be avoiding another round of divisive Liberal infighting Ignatieff has no interest in keeping the campaign more polite — he's the obvious target should a run come. The 30 lead campaign hopefuls are now going up for all-important delegate selection meetings in the end of September. Those delegates will be committed to a candidate for the first ballot, and Ignatieff is widely thought to be solidly in the lead. After that, though, they are free to change their votes. These crafting Ignatieff — and almost all — includes General Secretary Bobbi and Stephen Dean — and almost certainly back anybody but Iggy schemes. What's unclear is whether the leading party members to keep him in on the lead will be limited to behind-the-scenes deal-making, or evolve over the next few weeks and months into more open attacks. Ignatieff makes a tempting target. As a supporter of the Iraq war, who more recently backed Jean's right to go after Hezbollah, and who served for Prime Minister Stephen Harper's two-year tenure of Canada's military mission in Afghanistan, he is exposed as harboring foreign policy misuses. As the when's stand away published in this issue of Maclean's shows, the rest of his policy package ranges from mildly run-of-the-mill to fairly risky. Under the line heading, Ignatieff calls for lowering economic barriers between provinces and proposes — a stroke even his most wary-eyed followers would have trouble seeing as intellectually bold — regular meetings of the first ministers to fix the problems. In a move during war, he deflected himself from Harper by calling for "strong financial and regulatory measures

to prevent free dumping of emissions into the atmosphere." And where the Prime Minister has balked at calling Quebec a nation, Ignatieff endorses the "achieved balance" that allows many Quebecers to consider Quebec their nation and Canada their country. Although he seems likely to side on theory subjects like free emissions and Quebec's status, his approach to solving the real political problems they raise remains vague. "It makes no sense to target the Alberta energy sector alone," he says, declaring that new emissions regulations "need to be fair." But what does that mean if those rules target consumption of fossil fuels that Alberta depends upon? Ignatieff's approach? Heating accepted Quebec's auto industry, he suggests outlining "the facts of our life as a country composed of distinct nations in a new constitutional document." But in the next sentences he pushes off that daunting negotiating task indefinitely, observing that "right now" Con-

gresses. When it comes to keeping provincial and national relations on track, Davey is the insider. "Ian has a very solid, solid opinion authority. National meetings [by conference call] run 35 minutes, even though lots of us tend to go off to drinking," says Merchant. "His father was once at a dinner table, but most rock solid, sincere and to the point." If they differ in style, Ian Davey says he knows many lessons from his father. The former minister was known for consulting widely in the party and, as Merchant's memory of him as a cheerleader suggests, fostering open spirit. Asked to sum up what he had taught him, Davey says: "Get every voice in the table and get every voice heard." Not all Liberals, however, see that philosophy at work in the Ignatieff camp. Davey works closely with two Toronto lawyers, Dan Block and Al Apps, who took the interesting trip to Harvard to help Ignatieff back. The three had all worked together for Manley. Other core Ignatieff organizers include veteran like Smith, a few respected but anonymous backroom operators, and a stable cluster of politically savvy MPs, such as Quebec's Denis Coderre and Nova Scotia's Geoff Hogg. Perhaps in-

OPPOSITE PAGE: MICHAEL IGNATIEFF; THIS PAGE: KEITH DAVEY

IGNATIEFF HAD SO IMPRESSED KEITH DAVEY THAT HE SAID HE SAW IN THE PRO THE MAKINGS OF A PM



KEITH DAVEY guided Pierre Trudeau; Davey, now 88, lives with Alzheimer's disease

dians would settle for co-operation among their governments. "Constitutional review is for the future," he writes. If that's the case, why hang up the sensitive subject now? The answer could be that Ignatieff just likes to keep battering three sorts of ideas around. Davey denies that is being done to try to curb his enthusiasm. "I would never sit down with Michael Ignatieff and tell him what to say," says Merchant, a Regina lawyer and long-time Liberal organizer who is backing Ignatieff, says trying to restrict him to his message would undermine the very appeal that has put him in the lead. "He's a political conscious, which goes him into a little trouble, but it's why some of us are excited about him," Merchant says. "It makes for newness among the leaders."

In any case, insiders say that between now and those late September delegate selection meetings, convincing is less important than re-

MACLEANS SEPTEMBER 4, 2006



WHAT I WOULD DO IF I WERE THE PRIME MINISTER

From Afghanistan to Quebec, education to the environment, MICHAEL IGNATIEFF lays out his bold, progressive vision for Canada. A Maclean's exclusive.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEFF HUTHINGS

In the last year, I have spent a lot of time listening to Canadians, at fireside dinners in my riding of Etobicoke-Lakeshore and then as a candidate for the leadership of the Liberal party. As I listened, I began to get a feel for the aspirations and dreams that any sound Liberal policy must serve. I've been a Liberal since I was 17 years old—I campaigned for Mike Pearson in 1966 and served as a national youth organizer for Pierre Trudeau in 1968—and the ideals I have heard reaffirmed across the country have strengthened convictions I have held all my life.

In less than 146 years, Canada has transformed itself from a union of founding peoples—Anglophone, Francophone and Aboriginal—into a society that embraces the full diversity of our planet. Together, we have struggled to achieve equality of citizenship for all. We have maintained our independence from the most powerful nations in the world and we have preserved our unity as a people.

Canada has demonstrated to the world that people of different languages, faiths and customs can reconcile their differences and work together to strengthen the common framework of free government.

Canadians have created a distinctly progressive political culture in North America. We believe in universal rights of access to publicly funded health care, we believe in the protection of group rights to language, in group rights to self-determination for Aboriginal peoples, we believe in the equality rights of all citizens, regardless of sexual orientation, including rights to marriage. Strong

majorities of Canadians believe that while abortion should be rare, it should be a protected right for all women. In addition, Canadians do not support capital punishment and we do not believe in a constitutionally protected right to bear arms. We also maintain that human freedom is best protected in a market economy where risk taking is rewarded, taxes are kept competitive, workers' rights are protected, and the public finances are managed prudently to avoid burdening future generations with debt. We believe, finally, that we are stewards of our land, air and water and have an obligation to hand

processes of Saskatchewan and Alberta and began Canada's environmental revolution through the British Empire and our emergence as a fully independent state.

It is time for Liberals to become nation-builders again. The country does not want to be administered. It wants to be led. It doesn't want to be divided, it wants to be united. The country has not lost faith with its traditions of progressive government. It wants those traditions renewed for the 21st century. A nation building agenda must only focus on people and must have four basic priorities: strengthening a sustainable economy, strengthening



ON THE TRAIL: "The country does not want to be administered. It wants to be led."

these treasures on to the next generation, redempted and renewed.

I am in politics to defend and develop this progressive achievement.

As the Liberal party renews its sense of purpose over the coming months, it should be bold, unafraid to identify the problems we most tackle, and courageous in the solutions we propose.

To be bold, Liberals need to draw inspiration from our history. Our best Liberal leaders have not just been party leaders. They have been nation-builders. Wilfrid Laurier opened Canada to mass immigration, built the second national railway, created the

spirit of our citizenship, strengthening our unity as a people, and strengthening our place in the world.

We must reduce child poverty, gaps in Aboriginal health and education, clean up our lakes and rivers, generate jobs in Canada's regions, unless we create more wealth by making our economy more competitive. Greater wealth alone, of course, will not solve our problems. However, without greater wealth, we have no chance of making ourselves a fairer and more decent society.



portunity for Canada's regions. Indeed, the rural-urban, metropolitan-regional divide in Canada is the most vexed national unity challenge of our time. We need a concerted regional economic development strategy that leaves no Canadian region behind.

Improving educational opportunities in Canada's regions is crucial if young professionals are to remain where they grew up and to create new opportunities for their children.

Our regions also need to develop new partnerships between the agricultural and

regionally enabled regional economic development policy.

A prosperity strategy must include a plan for environmental sustainability. In no area of government policy is tough leadership more necessary than in the environment. It is no longer enough to rely on voluntary initiatives and subsidies to drive reductions in harmful emissions. A free market drives the emissions will continue to rise unless reducing emissions is enforced in the case of doing business. We need to shift to policies that provide strong financial and regulatory constraints to prevent the free dumping of emissions into the atmosphere.

But these regulations need to be fair. It makes no sense to target the Alberta energy sector alone. A balanced set of regulations must apply to all regions and all emission and pollution, on the principle of polluter pays.

Environmental and energy policy are always national unity issues in Canada, and regulations need to be framed so that they do not pit one region of the country against another.

'TO RECOGNIZE QUEBEC—AND ABORIGINAL PEOPLES—AS NATIONS WITHIN CANADA IS NOT SOME NEW CONCESSION. IT IS SIMPLY A FACT.'



A STAGGERING nine million people haven't the literacy skills to function in society. We must eliminate illiterates—of income and circumstance—to promote secondary education.

natural resource sectors and local universities to create new products in the biofuel and biopharmaceutical areas. We also need to strengthen our supply management systems and our income security for the farming population, faced as it is with heavily subsidized production from our competitors.

The federal government needs a national food policy, to coordinate across efforts for serving Canada's rural regions and its underserved sector and preserving Canada's role as a world food leader. The federal government would also work in partnership with the provinces as dual communities in

Finally, good environmental policy needs to be implemented gradually in step with the normal rate of our investment. We need to show the world environmental leadership without jeopardizing our international competitiveness.

The federal government's environmental plan must work with the provinces to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions, take proactive steps to preserve and enhance the quality of our air and water, and create real incentives for good environmental behaviour and innovation. We need to get through, before it is too late.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER BRIDGMAN/ALAN STREIT

Canada is a close experiment, an attempt to bind diverse peoples together in equality of citizenship. Our citizenship expresses the ideal that all Canadians should stand equal before the rules of life and that all Canadians should benefit equally from life's opportunities. These groups of citizens need particular help to reach this ideal. Aboriginal peoples, low-income working families with children, and visible minority immigrants.

Paid Martin's government committed more than \$5 billion over five years to Kojima to reduce unacceptable gaps in Aboriginal health, education and housing. The Conservative government has abandoned these commitments. This left Canadians where the government stands on justice toward Aboriginal peoples, but also where it stands on the side of government in improving economic opportunity for all Canadians.

A future Liberal government must return to the original Kelowna agreement and must in fact. But it must go beyond Kelowna. The federal government must demonstrate leadership in working with Aboriginal communities to close the opportunity gaps that remain.

The many Canadians are trapped in a municipal provincial welfare system that all but eliminate incentives to take low wage work. This "welfare trap" wastes resources and it wastes lives.

'WE CAN PROVIDE LEADERSHIP, BUT IF WE BAIL OUT OF AFGHANISTAN HALF-WAY THROUGH, NO ONE WILL TURN TO CANADA WHEN THE GOING GETS ROUGH.'

One of the most pressing proposals to disempower depends on the labour force in a federal working income tax benefit for low-income families. The refundable tax benefit would provide a basic tax credit and an income supplement for families struggling to survive on low wages. The supplement would decline as their wage income increased and would be eliminated altogether once the family reached a basic income of \$25,000. Closing this gap in the Canadian income security net could be done gradually, as revenues became available, and could be supplemented by other federal-provincial territorial partnerships to achieve full coverage of all eligible citizens and to eliminate overlap in the programs offered by different orders of

government. Over time, the federal government could become the ultimate guarantor of income security for all Canadians.

It is also time to take further steps to improve our immigration system. The federal government should play a more responsible, in consultation with the provinces, municipalities, the private sector and non-profit agencies, in ensuring that immigration policy is reflective of our labour market needs and that immigrants are more successfully integrated into what now lives here in Canada.



ALL CANADIANS should benefit equally from life's opportunities.

This nation-building project is a strategy of systemic investment by government on the people of Canada so that we can be more united, prosperous, sustainable and successful on the world stage.

A national project of these dimensions requires a strong federation with accountable government at the Aboriginal, provincial and provincial level, and a federal government guaranteeing common rights and standards of citizenship for all Canadians.

A strong federation is a partnership of equals.

A strong federation does not mean surrendering sovereignty. The opportunity is too vast and too diverse to be run from a single centre. Just a federation cannot be working unless the federal government has the fiscal capacity and national authority to maintain the equality of our citizenship at home and protect Canadian interests and values overseas.

A strong federation also means each order of government respecting the constitutional powers of the other orders. Respect is a two-way street. The federal government should not trample into provincial, municipal and Aboriginal jurisdictions. Equally, these orders of government should respect legitimate

federal jurisdiction defending the nation and its borders, maintaining a national market, building national infrastructure and promoting economic vitality of a citizenship grounded in the principles of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Where jurisdictions overlap, establishing true partnership agreements need to be put in place.

In a strong federation, all provinces should be equal, but all provinces are not the same. Each owes to our federation with a distinctive history that must be recognized. Quebec

in particular has a unique history: the only former French colony to join Confederation with a distinct language, legal system and religious institutions. It entered the federation on the strict understanding that its distinctive institutions would receive special protection in this new federal government of Canada. Canadian unity ever since has depended on recognition of this understanding.

Quebec, moreover, have come to understand themselves as a nation, with a language, history, culture and territory that marks them out as a separate people. Quebec is a civic nation, not an ethnic nation. It is composed of all the peoples from many lands who have come to Quebec and associated themselves with the values and traditions of Quebec and Canada.

More than 5,000 nations are recognized as such in the world, but there are less than 200 states in the United Nations. It is normal, therefore, for nations to join with other peoples to share a state. Quebec, by considerable numbers, consider Quebec their nation and Canada their country.

To recognize Quebec—and Aboriginal peoples—nations within the fabric of Canada is not to make more new concessions. It is simply to acknowledge a fact. Not is it a

pledge to further development of powers. Quebec already possesses the authority it needs, in areas of health, education, immigration, manpower training, language and culture, to protect the identity of its people and to promote its economic and social development. Since the 1960s, it has opened out of national programs. Like the Canada Pension Plan, while providing substantive programs that meet both its objectives and those of the federation. These negotiated rights to opt out should be respected, but equally Quebecers should have the right to opt in, to participate fully in pan-Canadian programs that expand their citizenship, increase their opportunities and improve their economic performance.

This activated balance between provincial autonomy and national citizenship—already alive in a characteristic Quebec way to say, with pride, "Le Québec est mon pays. La Canada est mon pays."

Despite this fracturing balance, the province of Quebec has not given its assent to the Constitution of 1982, and until it does, our federation's architecture remains unfinished. Creating the conditions for a successful negotiation to complete our nation building will take time. Realization of a new constitution will require good faith and political will on all sides. When these conditions are in place, Canadians should be prepared to reify the facts of our life in a country composed of distinct nations in a new constitutional document.

Constitutional review is for the future. Right now, Canadians are looking for a new era of co-operation among the orders of government. Together, they need to re-create a transparent, national and long-term fiscal relationship that seriously considers the true fiscal capacity of every order of government, and then arrives at an agreement that results in reduced transfers and equalization to facilitate the realisation of elevated national goals and to ensure that no well-off province can provide for their citizens without damaging the capacity of weaker provinces to serve the needs of their citizens. Good providing funds to the provinces, the federal government has an essential role in promoting common approaches to national challenges. Health care, for example, is a provincial jurisdiction, but the federal government has a legitimate role, under the Canada Health Act, in ensuring that Canadians, across the country, have access to publicly-funded care that is roughly comparable in quality of service, regardless of where a citizen happens to live. We have all bought for the principle that access to health should not depend on income, we do not want a Canada in which the quality of health care,

and therefore of citizenship, depends on what province you live in.

In a world of failed states and terrorist havens, Canada has learned to adapt its people-loving traditions to the demands of peace-building: combating ethnicity, humanitarianism and reconstruction teams together to provide human security for populations in danger. This transformation of our internationalist tradition is underway in Afghanistan. If we see this mission through, we will be able to provide leadership elsewhere. If we bail out halfway, no one will.

'AS A PEOPLE, WE ARE LESS THAN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS AND WE HUNGER TO BE MORE. CANADIANS DREAM OF A BETTER COUNTRY, AND WE ARE READY TO FIGHT TO MAKE IT SO.'



CAMPFIREWORK. Ignatius marks the room at the community centre in Monroville, Ont.

ties to Canada when the going gets rough. Canada also needs an accompanying diplomatic service, and a well-funded commitment to sustainable development. We work for a world where Afghan girls can graduate from school, where African girls can develop their own countries, where emerging nations can turn to Canadians to help train their judiciary, establish their police force and consolidate the rule of law.

We should substantially increase our foreign assistance budget, to meet the 0.7 per cent of GDP target first proposed in 1972 by Lester Pearson. Besides increasing resources,

we need to focus our development priorities on areas where Canadians have special expertise. "Peace, order and good government" is the motto of our constitutional system: the motto of our government institutions—the Mounted, the Supreme Court, Election Canada and the Auditor General, to take just four examples—echoes administration worldwide. We should make ourselves the go-to agency specialists of the emerging international order, just as Norway made itself the conflict resolution specialists of the 1990s. Canada should create a corps of specialists in good government—lawyers, judges, police, customs officers, public health administrators—who can be seconded overseas to work with the governments and NGOs of developing societies.

Diffusive and progressive at home, unified to lead abroad, this is my Canada, a country of life and equal citizens, bound together by a sense of common rights and shared traditions and devoted to expanding the circle of freedom and human rights around the world.



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On both sides now

On Israel, leadership hopefuls, like the polls, go two ways at once

BY COLIN CAMPBELL • On July 31, an opinion poll showed that the majority of Canadians opposed Prime Minister Stephen Harper's headline stand on the Middle East conflict. Harper had refused to call for a ceasefire, warning firmly behind closed doors that it advanced only Lebanon's "two state" line. On Aug. 14, just as the ceasefire took effect, another poll came out with an entirely different set of results. Canadians actually support Harper, it said.

The results underscored not only the vastness of polling—two different pollsters with two different sets of questions and widely different conclusions—but also what a point and counterpoint the issue can be. If the public is divided, where do poll-reading politicians, especially the 16 vying to lead the Liberals, stand on the Middle East? An informal survey by Mailman's found the confidence, much like the polls, on both sides, searching for footing on a very narrow public ground.

All the Israeli candidates agree that Israel has a right to defend itself, that Hezbollah should remain illegal in Canada, and that Iran and Syria were wrong to arm and support the group. Joe Volpe takes one of the stronger positions, saying that "Israel had the obligation to protect and defend its citizens." Martha Hall Findlay says, "We must oppose those, like Iran, Haasem or Hezbollah, who seek the destruction of any people or state." Such answers would have limited the candidates on Harper's self-ascribed conclusions drawn in the Aug. 14 poll. See COMFAC's blog.

But the Canadians are quick to criticize Harper's inflexibility. All say he was wrong not to call for a ceasefire, or at least make some diplomatic effort to minimize the conflict. (This fits Canada's position to play a meaningful role, says the Liberal party.) They would have placed candidates firmly on the majority side in the first poll, by Strategic Counsel, opposing Harper's position of support for "Israeli actions." "He failed to understand that it was possible to both support Israel"

right to defend itself, which I do, while at the same time opposing the escalation," says Goss. And Kennedy (Robt Ray, one of the leading candidates), says, "Canada is not neutral about the economic, but we must be more engaged in helping shape it. It must secure the future of every country in the region: Israel, Lebanon and Palestine." The Liberal candidates also criticize Harper's demonstration to send a message: keeping the line to the right, or at least consider contributing to a mobilized force.

The other political parties are firm in their opposition to Harper's position. The NDP's foreign affairs critic, Alex McLean, says, "we're not in a right to defend itself, but adds that Hezbollah is a humanitarian— it is a political force in Lebanon, not just a military one. In Quebec, where polls show stronger opposition to Harper's policy than in the rest of Canada, the Bloc Quebecois has also been highly vocal, calling for a more "balanced position."

[illegible]

Both Ignatieff and Kennedy note Harper's response has cynical overtones in Canada. It is "sawing discord among us," says Ignatieff. On this, they are backed by the recent poll results. And this could spell trouble—if past Liberal success has been based on carving out the middle ground and bridging ideological, the party may have lost its touch with the middle majority. Middle East crisis. ■

HI GRANNY, IT'S LUKE

A Wal-Mart worker foils a scam thought to originate in Canada

BY GARY GULIA • Antiquesped Canadian ocean hoarder telephone scans may have cost an untold number of identity Americans their life savings in under close watch by an unlikely investigator: a Wal-Mart employee. Linda Ransburg works behind the customer service desk at the discount superstore in Loveland, Colo. During a Friday shift in July she met Marc Adams, an 81-year-old grand mother, who approached the counter for help sending money to Canada. Suspicious, Ransburg asked when her Adams, who seldom leaves her grandchild's, explained



VICTIMS were told to send cash from Wal-Mart that earlier in the day she had received a phone call from a man who said he was her grandson, "Matthew," she wrongly guessed. "Lulu?" "Right," the man replied. "He had been in a fight, he was scared, and was in jail in Canada," could promise Adams said how 17,000 of his bail? When she suggested that she didn't have that much in her savings account, the man advised Adams to use her Visa to get the cash, and go to Wal-Mart to mail it.

Bansbarger had seen this before. Only a week earlier, an old man had come in with a similar story and \$5,800 to be sent. The next day the grandfather called him: it was a scam! His grandchild was fine! This time Bansbarger wouldn't make the same mistake. "I took

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Hill, who told that Spill wouldn't hold a bad card
 for back-to-back discoveries



MAYORS SHARE TIPS ON DRUG TAKING

Former Wisconsin mayor and U.S. president Mitt Romney on two ways of treating drug addicts: "One is dumb, the other is intelligent. The dumb choice is what we've been following since the 1930s." Romney, along with two other former mayors, was lending support to a local safe-injection site, the first of which is in the hands of the Harper government. Ottawa is deciding whether to extend a criminal-code exemption that would keep it open.

FOR THE
RECORD

SHRINKING NEW ORLEANS DOWN TO SIZE?

The good news is that the tourist precincts in New Orleans are back. The bad news is everywhere else.

BY PAUL WELLS • "New Orleans is a house," Spike Lee, replenderman all white suit, bellowed to a crowd of more than 10,000 in the New Orleans Arena. The maverick filmmaker judged the roar of applause to be satisfactory, so he offered the same sentiment again, slightly amended: "In the house!" More applause.

And it was exactly all the introductions Loe had to offer for the world premiere of his latest film, *Where the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*. For one of America's most powerful managers, Loe clearly believes he won't speak for itself. Or in this case, not even for the world so much as the river. Loe's four-hour HBO television documentary, which he will also be shown at this year's Toronto International Film Festival, chronicles the tragic, paradigmatic New Orleans and the rest of the Gulf Coast suffered after hurricane Katrina's landfall on Aug. 29, 2005. For Loe, even the death toll stands at 1,646. The damage was caused by a toxic mix of wind, rain, flood water—and administrative incompetence, he contends. It is still hard to know where to turn blame people.

Nearly everyone at the arena had lived through that nightmare, because nearly everyone in southern Louisiana did. The grief is still fresh. For many, the dislocation, job stress, financial crisis and emotional trauma are nowhere near over. As Lee's film rolled on the arena's giant screen, there was a roar of catharsis in the air.

The crowd bowed at images of President George W. Bush and of Michael Brown, the slain former director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. African-American audience members cheered my suggestion, from the residents I met interviews on camera, that from urban planning to crisis management to the peripatetic other Americans have of what happened here, group action had reached the deck against NewOr-



Member of the Episcopal Church in Illinois in 2004; vestian of the church on Sept. 3, 2004

leaves' black majority. Some in the smaller white contingent cheered back at any suggestion that the situation was more complex. (The TV critic for the *Times-Picayune* complained in a front-page review that Lee only showed the experience of black New Orleansites. "How could there be anything for four hours," Lee told his critic at a news conference, and for once he was being too generous.)

part of what makes the film so valuable is its ethnic and socio-economic richness of Lee's subjects, who mirror what has always been one of the most diverse American cities.)

Lo's movie is a good reminder of what happened to New Orleans. The short-notice evacuation notice—Katrina didn't turn toward the city until Friday evening, and local officials didn't start issuing mandatory evacuation

notices until Sunday morning, less than a day before landfall. The hoisted evacuation. The hoisting, the chaos, the lack of charity—police in Grana, across the river, head the bridge and turned back evacuees at gunpoint.

Because Spitzer Live is behind the curtain, his hosts give vent to anger, humor, and the sometimes open ordinary paranoia of people who are never guaranteed a fair shot. That paranoia amounts even to conspiracy: Myer Joff Nagin, who managed to get re-elected after Katsine, even though many New Orleans donors had his name bludgeoned for the chase. As he listens to a clip of himself lying by tripper on radio and prosecuting himself "passed" in the slow federal response, he tells Live: "The first thing I thought was, 'Man, I really screwed up. That's the end of my business career, that's the end of my political career, and maybe the CIA is gonna swoop in here in two months and inject me with something I don't know about.'"

The heat of Africa's creative potential most abundantly tragic story. At one point, he quick cuts more than a dozen people together, conversing on how hot it was in those late August and early September days. One young black woman goes on elaborates: "The heat was beyond African," she says. "If African heat is anything like what we faced through, and they keep saying, 'We back to Africa! He'll do.'" But the race scenes also compare living on potholes or floating, blown off and face down, in muddy water, and the point is driven home: Louisiana heat is funny when you're ranting from your air-conditioned car to you are air-conditioned house. If you're trapped outside for three days with no food or water, it could kill, and it did.

The war zone of relief and despair will greet any soldier who spends a few days in New Orleans. At Katrina's first anniversary approaches, the *Cosmopolitan* City has become America's external capital of good news, bad news. The good news is that the tourist precincts are slowly becoming normal. The French, no longer, built the French Quarter where they did because it was the only reliably high and dry ground in the marshy Mississippi Delta. Wind and rain took some toll, but Katrina's flood waters spared the Quarter, the Central Business District to the west, and much of adjacent Mississippi to the east.

So the daytime crowds still flock to Elmer's Lagoon's bustling NOLA restaurant. The beer trails into Bourbon Street as noon to mark the barn for another night's assault on the limits of alcohol tolerance and good taste. One Tuesday night in the dead of August, never a big concert season, I heard two true residents almost without pause on their instrument—the bongo player Don Yippie and the drummer Johnny Vidacovich—in the

chính là để dành cho người dân Việt Nam.

The bad news is nearly everywhere else. Ben began before Vopise's trailing the bandstand at Song Hsiaohe, located in an open field in the Lower Ninth Ward with Sapien's Nulans, wondering when our time of the lesser breaches was going to begin. Nulans is the chair of the department of earth and environmental sciences at Tulane University, and moved here from Utah more than 25 years ago. He has been giving these lesser tours to almost anyone who asks.

There are three reasons for this. First, while Nelson's specialty is volcanology, he has long

three-rig bender and comparing them to landmarks near where we stood. Some of that wave of water might have been high enough to top the 14-foot levees. But the real problem wasn't that the mangroves and wall built into the levees were too short, it's that they were too shallow: they went down only about 10 feet into loose, sandy earth. So water under high pressure barged under the walls through the soil, eventually corrupting a vital whole structure collapsed.

What is so sadly typical is that the Corps should have known this. "Back in 1985, the Corps research branch went out to the Arbo-

WITH ITS TAX BASE CUT IN HALF, HOW CAN THE CITY JUSTIFY GIVING PLUMBING OR POLICING TO TWO RESIDENTS WHERE 40 ONCE LIVED?



CANAL STREET On July 26, 2006 (left), U.S. military trucks drive down the flooded street on Aug. 31, 2006

tought about natural disasters more generally, and Mississippi's New Orleans has become a better laboratory than he could have wanted. Second, he is still so young at the helm of the U.S. Congress and the Army Corps of Engineers that he doesn't want the world to forget. Finally, if Molson brings guests, the Army Corps work crews repairing the levees are just inclined to chase him away. They know the mile he's willing to drive on a flat tire now.

Kearney's concernings for New Orleans from the east, joining past Lake Borgne and up two canals, the Intracoastal Waterway and the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, that converge in a V near the Industrial Canal. Nelson told me, pointing to maps he keeps in a

folks. But," west of New Orleans, and conducted experiments to simulate flood conditions against walls like these. Nelson said, "Presumably the experiment was done to help in the design of flood walls in New Orleans. But it never got to the people who were designing flood walls in New Orleans. So all of these flood walls were built after those experiments." That is a common refrain in New Orleans. "It wasn't going to work and there did a grosser

Slowly, as Nelson described the events of Aug. 29, I realized his open field hadn't been hit as one. That was a residential neighborhood, houses packed close together, some situated upon piers so flood water only a few inches deep would go right underneath them. When the house broke, the house drifted in front of the beach directly in front of the rushing water.

Children floated up off their playground and drifted into the rushing water, starting along building houses. "Everybody living in this part probably didn't survive, if they were still here," Nelson said.

After Katrina, newspaper photographers showed, say, a single awfully damaged house whose infrastructure had collapsed. But you really need to drive through the city, as we did, to see how widespread the devastation was. Eighty per cent of New Orleans was uninhabitable for weeks. Entire neighborhoods were shattered, as much as the rest of the city, homes whose structures survived became infested with mould that must be removed before humans can inhabit them again. A year later, thousands of New Or-

leakers from FEMA trailers perfused their own from punts, burned selectively from their own houses. Last week, FEMA admitted that a single key can unlock the identical locks on hundreds of shutters' front doors, and all the locks will need replacing.

Near the London Avenue Canal breach, Nelson showed me two weather houses where the flood waters had damaged up to a depth of nearly six levels. One house had a hole in the roof. "As the waters rose, sometimes the only way to survive was to chip away at it through the attic roof with a knife or something," Nelson said. The house next door had

IT IS EXTRAORDINARILY COMMON TO FIND A NEW ORLEANIAN WHO IS TAKING MEDICATION OR VISITING A PSYCHIATRIST FOR DISTRESS

a corrugated metal roof. There would have been no way out of that one.

By the time we got to the 400-foot-long breach in the 17th Street Canal, it was obvious that Katrina was never a case of an impossibly large storm breaching levee defenses. It was a large, slow-moving storm collapsing a levee system so ancient and shabbily constructed that it could never have withstood serious winds. Now, with rebuilding beginning before the disaster is complete, it's hard to believe New Orleans will return even to its previous level of quality and comfort, never mind come back as anything better organized or more beautiful.

Across the street from the 17th Street breach, there are empty lots where houses were destroyed or demolished, wrecked houses sitting derelict, almost total devastation, almost total loss of what those lives and what those houses were. Even putting new houses on the wall of one resident's house. Good for that guy—rebuilding, defying. Except for this half of New Orleans residents haven't moved home yet. They may never do. With the city's tax base in half, how can New Orleans justify providing plumbing, electricity and parking to one or two residents on a street where 40 used to live?

Multiply that question across a city where, even after the Katrina flood, the population is a quarter of a million. And, as always, add the confounding variable of race. Any attempt to shrink New Orleans to a new, more compact footprint that made any sense from the viewpoints of flood protection and

public utilities would, disproportionately, move people out of poor black neighborhoods. One of the problems at New Orleans is that poor black people own their homes at a higher rate than in most U.S. cities. So any new urban plan will inevitably resemble a plot against the underprivileged, even if it springs from no such motivation. Mayor Nagin, who owed his 2002 election to the white voting majority but needed to shore up the black vote to win re-election this year, quickly abandoned any attempt to shrink New Orleans down to size.

Crisis rates are higher than they were be-

fore Katrina. Eviction rates are soaring. The poor are crowded near the river and surrounded by mounds. The other was a satellite photo of Katrina's storm a week after the levee broke. The areas under water were precisely the marshlands designed to protect 127 years of clearing after the 1879 map was made. Turns out the land hadn't been reclaimed. Turns out it was only on loan from Mother Nature. A year ago the loan came due.

It is extraordinarily common to find a New Orleans who is taking medication or visiting a psychiatrist for mental distress. The pressure is similar to post-traumatic stress disorder, except that doctors, except the trauma-facts to end. Soon enough you start looking for a reason to hope. I found mine at the New Orleans Centre for Creative Arts/Kennerfront.

Some full disclosure is in order. A week after the levee broke, I organized a Katrina fundraiser in Omaha. My friends weren't sure anyone would give to a multi-billion-dollar reconstruction effort unless we put a real organization with a worthy mission. I picked NOCCA/Riverfront, which educates students from 100 schools across southeast Louisiana in half-day music, drama, art, cinema and other programs. Half of its students are underprivileged. Nearly all leave NOCCA to go on to higher education, most on scholarship. Alumni include Wynne and Franklin Marshall and Harry Connick Jr.

We raised \$77,000 for NOCCA on a few days' notice. Typically, our best efforts soon seemed dwarfed by the scale of the challenge. The Louisiana Legislature decided arts education is a flood zone and a luxury and voted to eliminate NOCCA's budget entirely. But the grassroots alumni, and artists from far afield like writers Dave Eggers and Sarah Vowell, fought hard to save it. While I was in New Orleans, NOCCA began a new school year with \$1 million shared off its US Department budget, and half in funding gone. But no problem is back up to \$5 per cent. One of the school's guardians, the film and cinematographer Alvin Kessler, showed up with an agenda that summer he wrote in his temporary digs, a FEMA trailer parked on his front lawn.

Gary May Wood, the school's president and CEO, showed me around the estimated facility, a refurbished Gulf War-era command. "We need racism in New Orleans," he told me. "We need to give kids a home. Every time a restaurant or a museum reopened after Katrina, in a hotel I can't tell you what kind of hope that gave you—'Thank God there's something else that's open.' I made the case to the legislature that NOCCA needs to be up and running for hope."

A year after the levee broke, with half the city gone and the other coming back in ways that may yet turn out to be unsustainable, you take your hope where you can get it. ■

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CANADA'S
MAGAZINE OF
THE
YEAR



NEW ORLEANS residents hold a house party on July 22, 2006. A resident walks past the house on Sept. 6, 2006.



fore Katrina. Eviction rates are soaring. The poor are crowded near the river and surrounded by mounds. The other was a satellite photo of Katrina's storm a week after the levee broke. The areas under water were precisely the marshlands designed to protect 127 years of clearing after the 1879 map was made. Turns out the land hadn't been reclaimed. Turns out it was only on loan from Mother Nature. A year ago the loan came due.

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WILLIAM H. WATKINS, Director, Center for Health Systems Research and Analysis, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA.



IRISH DAILY STAR editor, a McGill grad, sits in front of a scene covered by Irish police

Iraq's new paper tiger

Launching a newspaper is tough enough, even without the insurgency

BY ADAM B. KIRAN • A new voice has entered the media fray in Iraq, one with a Canadian twist. Since, meaning "perspective" in Kurdish, is a biweekly English-language digest published out of Iraqi Kurdistan. It's headed by a Canadian whose name is in Irish: Tom Goudas. Goudas is in Iraq, and, says editor and founder Terry Goudas, "it's been a challenge." Indeed, Goudas is a 39-year-old Montreal native of Armenian descent who speaks no Kurdish and only very basic Arabic. He launched the paper in February 2006 with the help of Ibrahim Alkhatib, the wife of Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki. And the son of the famed Iraqi poet al-Sayid, a city 375 km south of Baghdad and the regional headquarters of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), the political party headed by al-Maliki, has been anything but smooth.

After graduating from McGill in 1998, Goudas moved to Washington to work at a magazine focused on Middle Eastern news. She left in 2000, moving to Cairo, then landing a job as a postcard CD-ROM in Dubai. She covered Afghanistan and Iraq, where she met Alkhatib, who worked as a journalist before her husband became the Iraqi leader. Since its launch, *Star* has been jumping out 4,000 issues every two weeks, with website hits surpassing 100,000 hits. Also remarkable is the fact that it is distributed nationally "at the price of Baghdad," says Goudas. "Every issue has to be sent south by printing and distribution and then must have to be flown back to Kurdistan. The one advantage was the paper could at least be sent by national airmail. It's good for the English-speakers

and community and English-speaking Iraqis throughout Iraq, not just Kurdistan."

Star was created with a journalistic mission: to firmly root itself in the Iraqi scene. For the most part, the Iraqi media remains a mouthpiece for those in power, only now and then more democratic regions, only one of dozens of public news is fully independent of the weekly Hawlati. And, says editor, Terry Goudas, "the news coverage is not as good as it could be." "We've had journalists arrested for criticizing the government, for example. I've been formally charged for criticizing the Kurdish regional government."

Star has been given a special PUK license. Goudas has explained: "I know it sounds like a contradiction, the wife of the president founding a new paper," she says, "but I'm not a politician." He says, "I'm not a politician." He says, "I'm not a politician." He says, "I'm not a politician."

Some don't consider such a political worldview. Goudas admits she wants to avoid such subjects, such as covering the Iraqi powerful individuals. "I don't want it to be filled with yellow news or personal attacks," she says, "not that it's necessary in other publications." "I want to change things. I like young journalists to interview us to see how it should be done. I'm looking these guys on how to report, how to construct a story." "Injecting professionalism into an underdeveloped journalistic community is absolute, and difficult." But, Goudas says, "you're having a part in the rebuilding of a civilization. You have to be an idealist or you'll go out. I don't plan to be here forever. But I plan on leaving my mark." ■

LUCK OF THE UN-IRISH

Eastern Europeans are finding a better life on the Emerald Isle

BY MICHAEL PETROU • If there is a metaphor for Ireland's past, surely it must be the Miles Cross, a narrow pass through the Devil's Perils in the far south-west of the country. It was once dubbed the "Gap of Doom" by locals, because it was here that prisoners of families stood to die but were left forever to their own sad fates. It was here leaving Ireland for new lives in America, Canada, Australia and England. Michael Moriarty's grandfather left this place in 1904, joining the hundreds of thousands of other Irish who were fleeing out of economic decline. He was forced back many years later on the front steps of the Victorian workhouse. "It had the money to pay for a trip back home, and he was too proud to ask," Moriarty says. "He said everyone here that he was a hunk. But he was 60 years old and couldn't do that sort of work."

But Ireland's future is here also. The Devil's Perils is a traditional and rural part of Ireland where Celtic culture is still spoken. But in the restaurants and cities of villages scattered below the Gap of Doom, you are just as likely to hear Polish or Latvian spoken by the walk staff. Since the European Union expanded eastward in 2004, giving citizens of the new accession states the right to work in Ireland, some 150,000 people from eastern Europe have moved here. The largest single group is from Poland, but many have also come from the Baltic states of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia.

In country with a population of only four million people, this is an enormous influx. It is well more than a million eastern Europeans had immigrated to Canada in the last two years. But Ireland is a country with virtually no history of immigration. "You're like a fish out of the place," says one man in Cork, who complains that the Poles are "under the weather" and are driving down wages for native Irish.

Many Irish, however, seem to believe that their booming economy depends on immigrants and are generally welcoming. The Immigration Control Platform, an anti-immigration lobby group, exists only on the extreme fringe of Irish society. And some of

the major political parties have taken a strong stand against immigration. The Poles, leader of the opposition Labour Party, has only signed that Ireland should "manage" immigration to prevent a "race to the bottom" in wages and employment standards—and it is true that some new arrivals will work for less than the local minimum wage.

"They're good workers," says Moriarty, whose wife, Val, employs two Lithuanians. He adds that the Poles are similar to the Irish and fit in well. "They had hard times, three unemployment, and they have a funny sense of humor." Pat O'Donnell, a middle-aged man from Cork, also says the new arrivals from eastern Europe "blend in nicely" with the Irish. "I believe from 80 years a younger man, I would do the same."

Many Irish may accept labour migrants

"I UNDERSTAND THEIR SITUATION, BECAUSE THAT WAS OUR SITUATION"

from the car in a way that citizens of other countries in continental Europe do not because so many Irish were themselves once forced to leave their homes to seek a life elsewhere. "You will often hear it said, especially by older people. Look, I understand their situation, because that was our situation," says Peter Mac Eoin, a lecturer at University College Cork and the former director of the Irish Centre for Migration Studies. "There is a sense of mutual empathy with labour migrants for that reason."

Michael Nery, the archbishop of Dublin, recently blamed new immigrants and refugees in Ireland with the Irish economy of the "past" and he argued that they were welcomed. "It was a sad people I've think that the best of human behavior have been matched with in our own borders or that the only thing we are worried that the only culture in our culture," he said. "That line of thought would have put Patrick back to Britain and left us to our Celtic ways."

However, with a rapidly changing demographic in Ireland, it is forcing citizens to reassess what it means to be Irish. "We're a country that always saw identity in terms of blood and soil—and we've been broken or who your parents were, and that's being challenged now," Mac Eoin says. "There is now a contradiction there among older people that you certainly didn't see among my generation. The 32 I grew up in is a generation that took it for granted that a certain number of people were going to have to leave. It was a country that had a shock of self-confidence, and I think that's entirely gone. Being people in Ireland are now part of themselves."

But if immigration from the EU's eastern frontier is good for Ireland, it is also draining resources like Poland and Latvia of their

poor and elderly. An estimated one to two million Poles have recently migrated to countries in western Europe, including some 5,000 doctors and countless other skilled workers. The situation is so bad that the mayor of the Polish city of Wrocław has launched an advertising campaign to lure Poles home. The campaign slogan: "Where leaves you?"—but the pleading tone of a mother hoping to get her wayward son into returning to where they belong.

But Ireland's newest arrivals are unlikely to be viewed by such sentimentality. They're driven by debt, hard work and money. Poland's employment rate is around 66 per cent, Ireland under 50. And salaries in Ireland dwarf

in a three-bedroom house. It's crowded, but it could be worse. His friend and drinking partner, Krzysztof Alkhatib, 33, shares a house with 10 people, most of whom are committed to a room.

They don't mind the lack of space, but it's difficult to have a party because someone is always working in the morning. So Krzysztof and Alkhatib spend many evenings in Cork's bars and pubs. And food is scarce. Alkhatib says, but he has the day's poultry have chicken to meet and talk to Irish girls. Krzysztof admits these encounters don't always end well. "You see a girl, an Irish girl, at a pub, and the first question she asks is, 'Where are you from?' And if you say 'Lancaster, Poland,' she just runs



PROFIT FROM before their boom depends on immigrants, and are generally welcoming

anything a young person could hope to earn in the state. Patrick Gopak, a Polish immigrant, says he made one euro an hour in the Polish city of Poznan and now earns 10 times that amount working in a Dublin warehouse.

Keith Smith, 32, moved from Latvia to Ireland in 2004, as soon as it was legally allowed to work here, and hasn't left. "I make more money in a week than I did a month at home," he says over glasses of lager at an outdoor pub in Cork. Irish works in a supermarket and lives with four other recent immigrants

around. Irish people earn more money than we because they don't want to do as jobs that we do, and the Irish girls want money." There are other Irish women and Alkhatib talks to Krzysztof about his hair and points out all the haircuts. Lithuanians and Poles sit at nearby tables and work for the Irish. They're young and good-looking, but Krzysztof doesn't seem happy. "That's what I hate," he says, and sighs. "I didn't come here to work with other people." ■



INDIA: SWEET WATER—A MIRACLE OR MYTH?

Thousands of people rushed to Maharashtra's Mumbai last week to drink its heavily bleached water. Reports said it had suddenly turned sweet. Officials have no explanation yet why the water is suddenly sweet, but they've warned the public not to drink it. A nearby river carries thousands of tonnes of industrial waste and sewage. Yet amazingly, there have been no reports of illness

QUICK! BAG A NANNY.

It's speed dating, except for nannies. In New York. Watch your back.

BY KATE FILLIAM • **MI** Orinoff's business idea is a high concept—speed dating, except for nannies—but she's had no trouble getting the word out. Last Wednesday, the 56-year-old former headhunter presided over the inaugural *Meet the Nanny* event at a Manhattan sports restaurant, hosting blood and walls, *Survivor* TV screens, and 29 nannies, mostly ex-Catfishian personality, lined for hours of *Two* intimate job interviews.

A nanny in a pink blazer confided, "I heard the Mexican and Chinese nannies will put up with anything. It's not true."

The 25 percent in attendance had their own horror stories: nannies who couldn't speak English, or couldn't read kids, or were Miss Poppins incarnate but had suddenly decided to reveal long-held agendas that screamed child care providers with New York families can cost \$385,000—a waste of money, according to parents who paid US\$75 to attend the event, and felt they could do as well, and likely better, on their own.

Nevertheless, there was more desperation than blather in the air. "We need someone,"

After the bell signaling the start of the event rang at 2-40, the scabrous row of 23 simultaneous job interviews filled the air. Drew Williams, a former music executive with all Harvard M.B.A. and a movie production company, whipped one upshot and told Joan Roberts, a newly divorced nanny with a messy domesticity. "This is my daughter, she's almost 2, and in five weeks, that"—Williams pointed her bump—"will be my son. The live in Brooklyn. Is that a deal for her?" Joan drew away mulling money and Williams, who'd said earlier she'd like to spend \$100 a week, was saying, "\$700 a month reasonable, I want you to be happy." Ding!

a full-time nanny in need of backup, and a highly decisive manner. The new part-time nanny was, in yet, unaware of just how little the society but job would be, but she did confess to being "very pleased" with the pay—"which is confidential," Brodman interrupted quickly, before showing, "I think it's more her lucky day than my lucky day."

Joanna Green, who was not in line to interview, was not so sure. "How can the nanny know, without speaking to everyone, who she'll rather work for? That is a question," she complained to Orinoff. "I came early to meet them and now they're gone before out of circulation. I don't know you could make a pre-employment, and it doesn't seem fair." Several minutes later, the nanny sat tatted as Brodman severely advised her new employer into a chauffeur SUV.

ent pool, though she looked stressed. Across the room, the three, originally from Greenville, was disappointed to find their next family. "Many parents are not who we look for," she said gloomily. Melissa Engle, a petite dancer, was the last to leave. "I could never have another 16," she said wistfully, as the nanny struggled off to the subway.

After checking references and re-interviewing a few nannies, the Gelmans hired one on Saturday, and there were two more here on Monday. But for some, it was no easy success as one had suggested their daughter with another one in the line place. "It's weird that they're of a different socioeconomic background, and some of them have no interest in children, they're just doing this because they can work legally and it doesn't require training," said Green.



LAURIE AND MICHAEL GELMAN (top left) at *Meet the Nanny* in New York; Stacy Brodman (top right) on the phone; and a hire on the spot

Misty wine crop mauls and carried names, like Nadine Robertson, 45, whom CV books appearances in *A Kennedy* and *Zoolander*, and May Goldfarb, 35, who has a *University of Texas* and a preference for a live-in position (the older women and babies with the local practice of nannies and families (a husband, mostly limited or living out). A few nannies, however, had the wild-eyed look of women who have been up since dawn caring someone else's children. Or someone else's mother. "I'm good with the kids, I can bring myself to their level, but the New Yorkers—oh, they're demanding, for me," sighed one nanny in search of a less high-maintenance employer. Another countered, "The New Jersey mom, she thinks you're her slave. Proper communication, that's agreed, in Okay." "They want you to minimize the child's cry," she said, the first, rolling her eyes. "Next, 'Oh, would you put it in the oven?' You might do this one time, then next day they were the same thing, and gradually you're the coffee Caribbean nannies, we're, but we're very straight, don't push me too far."

WILLIAMS, WHO'D SAID SHE'D LIKE TO SPEND \$500 A WEEK, WAS SAYING, '\$700 SOUNDS REASONABLE'

one yesterday," said Lenore Gelman, who commutes to Toronto to do her *The Mom Show* and has been looking for a nanny for two months. "Well, we have a week or two," soothed her husband Michael, executive producer of *Live with Regis and Kelly* and one of four men in the restaurant. That wealthy, educated, anxiously famous people like the Gelmans were having difficulty did not surprise Joanna Green, a magazine editor who has been home for the past year with her twins, a nanny, and her own moderately famous husband, writer and editor Bill Buford. "When my boys were newborn I ran an amazing woman and hired her, then another man threw herself at the woman, affecting her mood and begging, and basically hired her right out from under me," said Green, now searching for part-time help. "New York is insane."

The parents heaved. This was more like it. "I would like me months to interview this nanny candidate, and I don't own know how I'd find them all," said Williams. The presence of some nannies that employers created the pleasant illusion of a better world, but, at some became clear, the nannies were themselves selective. "I'm not going to speak to that gentleman," sniffed one, only coming a mild looking man according to her spouse. "He might be a pervert." Another was displeased with the Gelmans. "They didn't go me that were welcome to frequent." Some one else rejected Williams on the grounds that "I could never work for a black family. I'm black, so I'm allowed to say that." David Ar 30, Stacy Brodman, a fashion consultant who wanted one of the Brodman dynasty a few years back, hired Hanna Salas, compelled by "her experience. And her smile." So too, in the previous five minutes, learned that Mrs. Brodman has an infant son, so no children who want every other weekend,

"I prefer they call my references first," said Susan Bradstreet, "to know whether I work for you, personally, why I left the job." Another afternoon was on, the parents, interested in the art of the interview, related into the rhythm of the spot, some of the nannies—who viewed the interviews in brief sessions of necessary routine, not unlike a balance—were up. After displaying photos of the two boys he looked after most recently, and finishing their names, one nanny finished her interview with Green by announcing, "I can work with anyone, I can work with the devil. Live with the devil, I should say. Sometimes it's hard, but that's the kind of every person you can say." Ding!

"It was very nice to meet you," Green said

afterward. "It's hard to find a person you trust with your children, and who has a personality that clicks with yours. It's kind of like a marriage to somebody that you probably wouldn't choose to marry." On all of them, and in considering providing cross-cultural awareness workshops because "there are only two worlds, collaborating." Next to roll out, though, will be leaving many services trained investigators will perform certain background checks, administer a battery of educational and psychological tests, and once up on the money to ensure the hire is appropriately vetted. Orinoff didn't want to scare the parents with their short lists and background checks, but the said, "Fishing someone in a part the beginning."



NIPAL: RAINMAKERS AVOID GETTING CLOTHES WET
Desperate for rainfall, 50 women in the Himalayan country's parched rice-growing region striped naked and posed their bodies last week. They took the measure after Hindu prayers and rituals failed to bring the heavens. The nude superstition has no basis in accepted religion but local people believe it could appease the rain gods. It seemed to have worked. Said one woman: "This is our last weapon, and there was light rain!"

SAFE...AND SORRY

Have years of child-safety programs turned our kids into ninjas?

BY CYNTHIA KETTERHOLM • Use Navid, who leads a British child's charity called London Play, was walking along a Berlin street, on a break from an international conference, when she stopped to watch a group of primary schoolchildren in the schoolyard. She couldn't believe what she was seeing. "If this was London they would have called in search and rescue," says Navid. "Or the health inspector would have come in and shut the place down." Young Germans had been chopping wood with axes and running ropes in a cauldron over an open flame. Children who looked like kindergarten were maneuvering kyojaks on their own in a large pond while the adults chatted on the sidelines. The scene got Navid worried—and not for those kids. The male German children were learning to manage far surpassing anything schoolchildren in her city were doing.

In Britain, as in Canada, the U.S. and elsewhere, an overbearing concern for safety—along with where to safeguard against child injury litigation—has completely altered the landscape of kids' activities over the past 20 years. The playgrounds, it's almost lowering single steps, substituting play surfaces, and streamlining play sets with no steps and run. Some districts have gone as far as banning swings and posting signs prohibiting running. Last summer, a father in St. John's, Nfld., who feared his 4-year-old's child's house after a neighbor's complaint to the city, he was told it didn't meet building codes. A pamphlet on playground safety from British-based Child Safety Link says one stringent recommendation to parents ensure your child never jumps off a jumping swing, be on the lookout for tripping hazards like tree stumps, never let your child wear a scarf, because the scarf could choke.

But recently, a growing number of people have reached an epiphany similar to Navid's: despite our best intentions to protect children, our actions have produced the opposite effect. Studies are showing that kids have become less capable, less self-reliant—usually, more vulnerable to harm. And fear of

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What makes someone a good music director for an orchestra? Vladimir Ashkenazy, who has led the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, says there are lots of factors. "One factor is an acute relationship with the orchestra as an artist, relationship with dancers in an event, willingness to understand the needs of the institution, and if they may not always totally jibe with the conductor's inner aspirations." All of these things, plus a good relationship with the musicians themselves, make for a successful music director. And then there's Pinchas Zukerman, music director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, which starts a new season in September.

An interview with the Orange County Register, Zukerman alleged that all the trouble was being caused by a sort of orchestral fifth column. "In every orchestra, in every institution that has been in existence quickly, there's always going to be a few rotten apples," he said. "And they have created an atmosphere that has to be eradicated, quite frankly." Even in a more conciliatory interview with CBC's *The Current*, Zukerman couldn't help making a shot at individual fifth-columnists, saying that some of them take jobs in orchestras "in a last resort" after failing to make it as soloists. "Mr. Diplomacy strikes again," observed a poster on www.violinstalk.com. Chaz Deacon, the manager of the NACSO, insists that the problems, though they exist, are minor.

outside Ottawa. In 1991, the NACSO shook things up by appointing Pinchas Zukerman, a notoriously informed Performer (1417) specialist who'd made a series of bestselling recordings. The management of the NACSO hoped that Pinchuck would, as McMiller put it, "unlock the door to the world of internationally renowned recordings." But they didn't have good luck. Pinchuck's recordings career peaked not around that time, and he never made a recording with the NACSO. And when Pinchuck left, Zukerman came in (after the orchestra's first choice, Kiril Lickstein, opted to take a job with the Utah Symphony in Salt Lake City instead), and as big-name musicians for an orchestra that wanted big-name recognition. True, Zukerman was

Mr. Diplomacy sticks around

Why would the NAC re-sign the notoriously difficult Pinchas Zukerman? BY JAMIE J. WEINMAN



but Zukerman has been leading the orchestra since 1994, during which time he's been fighting with the members, always cancelling concerts, and making remarks that NAC management called "inappropriate."

And so, of course, the NACSO recently re-signed his contract through 2010. The big news came last year when Zukerman abruptly exited the job, cancelling his NACSO concerts and taking a previously unplanned "sabbatical" for five months. But there were fine print details that Zukerman was the story of his romance with and eventual marriage to the NACSO's principal cellist, Amanda Forsyth. He was once married to actress Tuesday Weld, and speculation that he was showing favoritism to her. Robert Everett Groot, music critic of the *Globe and Mail*, talked about the perception of "an alarming sense of entitlement on the part of the orchestra's power couple."

There was Welder Pyramus, the NACSO's concertmaster, who retired after 17 years without Zukerman offering any grand wishes to public. Zukerman hasn't been known for making public appearances on behalf of the orchestra, when he does give interviews, he often says something that increases the tension. In 2003, he was once again in the spotlight.

He was once again in the spotlight. The reason was real, the media reporting was sometimes warped. He says that Zukerman is just a tough boss which "does not mean you put popularity contests, but it may mean you mean the price of excellence and success." But while the session goes on in the media, the press coverage isn't even having the usual side effect of drumming up interest in the orchestra. Everett Groot's article pointed to the most recent available numbers: "The orchestra's subscription ticket sales dropped by almost 20 per cent between 2002 and 2003."

So with annual sales dropping and constant recording, why did the NACSO renew his contract? Rob McMiller, who was the NACSO's administrator for the first three years of Zukerman's tenure as music director, has a theory. "The National Arts Centre is a young institution, and I think they were the last agency that can only come with many, many years of existence." Zukerman is a NACSO, the biggest one the NACSO can get right now. And in the world of classical music administration, a NACSO can be very important. Previous music directors of the NACSO, like co-founder Marc Bernard, were all but

known as best known as a conductor. He'd become famous as a violinist, part of a generation of young Israeli musicians like Daniel Barenboim and Yoel Perlman. But Zukerman had gained some conducting experience with a stint as music director of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. And he'd made many recordings for the big companies, including one recording with him conducting the NACSO in a program of Beethoven symphonies.

Another hoped-for advantage in hiring Zukerman was that he might use his connections to bring in other well-known people to perform with the orchestra. That's the way it was back when he started his career, Isaac Stern, the famous violinist, was known for using his influence to get engagements and contracts for Zukerman and his other young colleagues. Why couldn't Zukerman do the same for the NACSO?

It didn't work out that way, though. With the classical recording industry falling apart due to slowing sales, Zukerman isn't able to get the NACSO—or even himself, in a video format—any more big label recordings. As for Zukerman's former friends, only Perlman occasionally came to play in Ottawa. McMiller says Zukerman couldn't deliver the

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE (LEFT) AND RIGHT

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

across the NAC was expect-
ing "Vladimir Ashkenazy
still hasn't shown up at the
National Arts Centre. Burn-
stein hasn't shown up to con-
duct that orchestra. Zubin [Mafia] hasn't
shown up. All the names that I've seen were
headed about in the negotiation process—
the promised land—it was all a mirage."

Without much recording work or public-
ity (except for the times when he was caught
fording with the quail), Zuberman had
to rely on his skills as a conductor. And here's
where the problems started to show. No one
in the business denied that he has great tal-
ent, or even that he can get along with an
orchestra when he needs to, as a guest con-
ductor. He had what McLean calls "great
chemistry" with the players. But as a full-
time music director, something became ap-
parent that hadn't been so clear when he was a
guest: he didn't conduct that many pieces, and
didn't have time to learn more.

McLean says Zuberman had a "really nar-
row repertoire... I don't think he knew all
the Beethoven symphonies, even." Others, like
Deacon, note that Zuberman has expanded
the orchestra's repertoire by adding some
later music to the mix. "The late Prokofiev, the
orchestra's centre of gravity was Beethoven-Sch-
ubert," Deacon says. "Under Prokofiev it has
become back to Tchaikovsky." He adds that
"Prokofiev has deepened the colour and weight
of the string music, produced a new kind of
balance in the symphony and modern orches-
tral repertoire that the NACO performs."

The other thing that became a point of
controversy in Zuberman's repertoire selec-
tion was his unwillingness to perform
Canadian music. Soon after Zuberman was
appointed, John Ruge, president of the Cana-
dian League of Composers, found that Zu-
berman wasn't adding new Canadian works
to the schedule even after meeting with CLC
representatives. McLean recalls that he gave
Zuberman some scores of Canadian works
to take home and study, and he's not sure if
Zuberman read them. "Once I put a copy of
Scott's tape over the middle clasp of pages
of the score, just to see if the tape would be
disturbed when he brought it back," he recalls.
"And it wasn't, [confirming] my suspicions
about the fact that he probably wasn't even
checking up on these scores. And he would
bring them back after a day or two and say,
"This is all she!"

And yet, Deacon and others argue that the
complaints are overblown, a critic of Zu-
berman's early years with the orchestra. Deacon
points out that through Zuberman "the NACO
has commissioned three Canadian com-
posers—Dorothy Boudreau, Gary Kulesha and
Alexis Lavoie—to each create new works."



ZUBERMAN IN 1995 (top), with then-
captured nemesis Prokofiev (the couple
married in March 2004) in Ottawa
(middle) and a music-sharing session with
young students in Russia in 2005

And though Zuberman hasn't been able to
pull in most of his famous friends as guests,
he does have the ability to attract a few A-
list stars. Famous guests for the upcoming
season include pianist Emanuel Ax and vi-
olinist Gil Shaham. Deacon makes it clear
that one advantage of having Zuberman in
Ottawa is that he spends quite a bit of his
time performing outside Ottawa, drumming
up connections for the orchestra. "When he
collaborates with major talents, young or ex-

perienced, he connects them to his orchestra back
home in Ottawa," Deacon says. "He's proud
of Canada and the country that welcomed his
parents from Israel and he brings about Cana-
da and Ottawa to the musical world where-
ever he travels. Canada benefits." Except
when he's complaining about Canadian mu-
sicians in Orange County.

There have been other signs of a carolin-
ing musician. Zuberman used to be known
for having difficulties from the historically
informed Performance movement. In an in-
terview with *Resonance* magazine, he said that
period instrument orchestras sounded "like
old poling," and to the *Globe and Mail* he
said that HIP was "complete rubbish." Juana
Lemon, the director of the Toronto period
instrument orchestra *Il Canto*, wrote a
Globe and Mail article where she declared:
"I would like to challenge Mr. Zuberman and
his NACO orchestra to a musical duel." But
while Zuberman still doesn't have much re-
spect for HIP practice, Deacon says there's a
sort of truce: "Prokofiev continues to invite
renowned European specialists (Igor Piatigorsky
to conduct the NAC Orchestra because he
respects his musicianship)."

Zuberman's defenders also point to his
work as a teacher; he's used the NAC's re-
sources to locate, train and promote young
conductors. Zuberman, Deacon says, "has
created an annual summer Institute for
young players, conductors and orchestra-
tors at the NAC, and has had a kind of 'educa-
tional revolution' at the NAC Orchestras." On the
other hand, others argue that the educa-
tional work is something of a distraction
from his main job. "He's not conducting
new repertoire," McLean says. "But some-
how the organization was letting him get
away with treating people and changing
people and imagining that that was some
kind of performance."

That's the status of Prokofiev Zuberman,
a musician who delivered some of the best
as the NAC hoped for, but somewhat more—
in terms of guest artists, oboes, and NAC-or-
chestras programs—than a lesser-known mu-
sician. And if a greater number of controver-
sial performances or personnel problems go
with Zuberman's celebrity status, Chris Deacon
has the answer for that: "There are work-
place issues that are being sorted out with
the assistance of professional facilitators." ■



JOHN LITHGOW... HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

"From time to time I dream I'm a musician. I wake up and under-
stand the art. I understand by the chords of my words. / And my
old-fashioned, that's me. / I have just there a study in brown, /
I'm now along the city's main floor, / I'm now from home to
and variety. / That's why I'm now in such a happy embrace."
—I'm a musician, from *The Swamp Song of the Street*, a new col-
lection of songs for children

ANDREA BOCELLI, UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

CSO

Fourteen-time Grammy Award winner David Foster and OLG cordially invite
you to the David Foster and Friends Charity Gala – a spectacular evening of
celebrity entertainment in support of Ontario families with children requiring
organ transplants. Andrea Bocelli will headline this exclusive event at the
Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort, November 25th, 2006.



This exclusive charitable event will benefit The David Foster Foundation. David Foster established
The Foundation in 1986 as a means to provide financial and emotional support to families with
children in need of life-saving organ transplants.

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further event information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Heller Productions Inc.
at 416 483-8333 ext. 228 or by email at kirsten@hellerproductionsinc.com

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ONE OF THE EDITORS of the new book *Debunking 9/11 Myths* is Brad Reagan. (Reagan? There's a name for conspiracy theorists to ponder.)

Call me crazy. I blame terrorists.

How can 36 per cent of people polled think U.S. officials knew of or participated in 9/11?

BY MARK STEIN

Who is A. K. Dewdney? He's an adjunct professor of biology at the University of Western Ontario, and he has been together the truth about what happened on 9/11. His may be familiar with the official version. "To account for the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the Bush White House has produced a scenario involving Arab hijackers flying large aircraft into American landmarks," writes the eminent Ontario academic. "We, like millions of other 9/11 skeptics, have found this explanation to be inconsistent with the facts of the matter."

Instead, he argues, a small plane with two people on board crashed into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. The passengers of one of the flights died in an aerial explosion over Shanksville, Pa., he says, "and the remaining passengers (and aircraft) were disposed of in the Atlantic Ocean." Most of us are familiar with the "9/11 Commission" because we were unaware that, when two planes crashed into the World Trade Center, they appear as a single ship on the radar screen. Thus, the covert cover. Instead of crashing into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the flights were diverted by FBI agents on board to Birmingham, Pa., where the passengers from all three planes were herded onto Flight 175 and flown on to Cleveland Hopkins and then Omaha. By then, unnamed Predator-driven jets had been refueled for the passengers and directed onto their high-profile targets. The original hijackers and their passengers were flushed off over the Atlantic.

But what about all those phone calls, especially from Flight 9/11, which Dewdney "Cellphone calls made by passengers were highly unlikely to impossible. Flight 175 was not in the air when most of the alleged

calls were made. The calls themselves were all faked." Michel Chossudovsky, of Quebec's Centre for Research on Globalization, agrees. "It was extremely difficult, if not impossible, to place a wireless cell call from an aircraft travelling at high speed above 5,000 feet."

So all the "Let's roll" stuff was cooked up by the government spokes. So, presumably, were the calls from the other planes. Flight 175 passenger Peter Henson to his father. "The passengers throwing up and getting sick. The plane is making jerky movements." This is a time when, according to professor Dewdney, Flight 175 was preparing to land smoothly in Harrisburg. Oh Flight 175 as mentioned Madeleine Sweeney. "We are flying very, very low. We are flying very low. Oh my God, we are flying low." Two minutes later, Flight 175 supposedly crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center—though, as professor Dewdney has demonstrated, by then the plane was "over the water." Chossudovsky "calls" all used texts of the last voice modification technology to make family members believe they were talking to loved ones rather than vocally disguised government agents. In the case of Todd Beamer's "Let's roll," the speech had gone to the trouble of recording and identifying his last passenger's "dramatic conversational expositions."

In the end, says Dewdney, Flight 9/11 was

shot down by a "military-looking all-white aircraft." It was an A-10 Thunderbolt II, commonly referred to as a "Hooch." Dewdney doesn't provide a rationale for why you'd go to the trouble to paint a military aircraft. But the point is, several experiments rejected seeing a white jet in the vicinity of the Flight 9/11 crash site. The so-called conspiracy theorists replied that as supporting evidence that the plane was brought down by the U.S. military rather than after a hijacking passenger uprising against their ill-fated hijacking. "It was taken out by the North Dakota Air Guard," answered retired army Col. Don D. Grand. "I know the pilot who fired those two missiles to take down 9/11." It was Maj. Rick Gray, who destroyed the aircraft with a pair of Sidewinders at precisely 9:58 A.M.

Occasionally we now turn to a brand-new book edited by David Dunbar and Brad Reagan called *Debunking 9/11 Myths: Why Conspiracy Theories Can't Stand Up to the Facts*. Brad Reagan? There's a name for conspiracy theories to ponder, notwithstanding a cover to a "conspiracy artist" for *Popper/Mythbusters*. First things first: Maj. Rick Gray is a lieutenant colonel. As of 9/11, he wasn't in Shanksville, Pa., he was in Fargo, N.D. At 10:45, he took off for Bismarck, Minn., where he picked up Edward Jacoby, Jr., director of the New York State Emergency Management Office, and flew



UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 9/11 data recorder, found in Somerset County, Pa.

him back to Allentown, N.Y., in a two-seat F-16B, unmarked—i.e., no Sidewinders. The white plane was not an aircraft painted A-10 Thunderbolt but a Dassault Falcon 20 corporate jet belonging to the company that owns Wengler, North Pole and other dining lines. It was coming into Johnston, near Shanksville, when Flight 9/11 disappeared and the FAA noticed to ask them if they could look around. "The plane circled the crash site twice," says Dunbar and Reagan, "and then flew directly over it to mark the exact latitude and longitude on the plane's navigation system."

Just for the record, I believe that a cell of Islamist terrorists led by Mohammed Atta carried out the 9/11 attacks. But this puts me in a fast-shrinking minority. In the fall of 1994, a coast-to-coast survey of Canadian citizens found 41 per cent of respondents that there was no Muslim involvement in 9/11.

Oh, well. It was just after 9/11, everyone was still in shock.

Five years later, a poll in the United Kingdom found that only 17 per cent of British Muslims believe there was any Arab involvement in 9/11.

Ah, but it's a sensitive issue over there, where both Tony Blair and George W. Bush are at it.

Professor Dewdney's plane-owning theory? Come on, if you already live in Canada, it's not such a large leap to live in an alternative universe.

But what are we to make of the Scripps Howard poll taken this month in which 36 per cent of these Wengler thought of "somebody likely" or "very likely" that federal officials either participated in the attacks or had knowledge of them beforehand?

Debunking 9/11 Myths does a great job of explaining how popular conspiracy-watching messages in a 125-foot-wide plane were a 16-foot hole in the Pentagon. Answer: it didn't. The 16-foot hole in the Pentagon's Ring C was made by the plane's landing gear

But the problem isn't scientific, it's psychological. If you're prepared to believe that government agents were the trouble of something, say, gay rights plays. Marking lunch's family background and vocal characteristics so they could take telephone calls back to his man, then clearly you're not going to be deterred by mere facts. As James H. Mays, the editor in chief of *Popular Mechanics*, remarks toward the end of the book, the overwhelming nature of the evidence is, to the conspiratorially inclined, only further evidence of a cover-up. "One forum posting that has multiplied across the Internet includes a long list of the physical evidence linking the 19 hijackers to the event, the moral left behind at Boston's Logan airport, Mohammed Atta's suitcase, passports recovered at the crash site, and soon. 'HOW CONVENIENT!' the web site notes after each comment. In the head-to-head talk-you-lose logic of conspiracies, there is no piece of information that cannot be incorporated into one's pet theory."

When I was on the Ruth Lefkowitz show a couple of months back, a listener called up to insist that 9/11 was an inside job. I asked him whether that meant Bali and Madrid and London and Istanbul were also inside jobs. Because that's one expensive opponent to hide even in the great making money of the federal budget. But then Toronto Mayor Rob Ford should make a much shyer point.

"I wonder if the man even believes what they are saying. Because if something like 9/11 happened in Canada, and I believed with all my heart that, say, Stephen Harper was involved, I don't think I could tell the best Prime Minister I could myself then morning screaming to mother country: 'How can you believe that your President killed 2,000 people, and an innocent victim that's just coming on buying your shoes and our food?'"

Over to you, Col. de Grand Pre, and Chief Justice, and Alan Cumins. The real reality is that never before has an

MACLEAN'S BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY STEVE BARNES

Fiction LAST WEEK OVERSOLD

1	3076 FRANKIE by John Grisham	1 (98)
2	FRANTON by Terry Goodkind	2 (84)
3	THE BIRTH HOUSE by Ann McKay	5 (22)
4	BOOK OF LUMINOUS by Leonard Cohen	3 (33)
5	KNIGHTS OF THE BLACK AND WHITE by Jack Wherry	4 (23)
6	GOING TO AMERICA by Anna Tyler	10 (17)
7	THEFT BY PAUL KATZ	7 (18)
8	LONDRONATI by Graham Smith	8 (30)
9	TWELVE SHARP by Janet Fitch	6 (27)
10	AFRO by Douglas Coupland	8 (23)

(LAST WEEK'S BESTSELLERS: 1. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 2. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 3. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 4. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 5. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 6. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 7. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 8. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 9. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay; 10. *THE BIRTH HOUSE* by Ann McKay)

Non-Fiction

1	HAILEY & ME by John Depp	1 (98)
2	THE WEATHER JAHNS by Tom Ranney	1 (22)
3	STUNNING ON HAPPINESS by David Gilmour	5 (27)
4	DEATHS FROM THE EDGE by Alexander Cooper	3 (30)
5	THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME by Mark G. Gilbert	9 (21)
6	FRISCO: THE AMERICAN MILITARY ADVENTURE IN IRAC by Thomas R. Ross	10 (17)
7	HEART BY 9/11 by David	8 (23)
8	HORSE: HOW THE HORSE HAS SHAPED CIVILIZATION by J. Edward Churchman	10 (17)
9	SHAKES IN SHITS by Paul Beatty and Robert Rose	6 (24)
10	THE BATTLE FOR SPAIN by Anthony Browne	10 (17)

entirely hidden in each phone night. Owens has Laidan decided a jihad against America in 1998. And the nuclear president votes to make Israel off the map. A year before the triple bombings, radical Irish imam Ciaran Baker announced that a group of Londoners are "ready to launch a big operation" on British soil. "We don't make a distinction between civilian and non-civilian, innocent and non-innocent," he added, chiding the global rules. "Only between Muslims and the rest of the world." And the life of an architect has no value.

Our enemies hang their shingles on Main Street, and a University of Western Ontario professor puts it down to a carefully planned subversion of transportation codes. ■



FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT... THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR
When Arnold Schwarzenegger became California governor he brought a coming shoveler's knowledge to politics in the United States. As a PRCA publicist-candidate consultant once noted, "Every American likes to be entertained," including on the stump. But as Joe Matthews' *The People's Machine* records, his advocacy of "people power" was doomed to failure as the people he sought to inspire, including unions and Italian families, turned against him.

PHOTO: LISA HARRIS/ALAMY

REUTERS

MACLEAN'S BESTAUGUST 2006



FOR CARNIVOROUS EYES ONLY: Puppet heroes Parker and Josh work in fast food, using buttons against vegans and isolation

Where friends meet to eat meat

Satirical kids' show Mr. Meaty carries on the spirit of Jim Henson—and angers vegetarians

BY SHANNA BUEHL • *Mr. Meaty, a new kids' TV show, is raising a few eyebrows.* "It brainwashes children that meat is what we want to be eating," says one online petition, which currently has 585 signatures. Another petition complains the show makes "fun of vegetarians and vegans." These concerned viewers are using *Nickelodeon*, a U.S. network, to drop the Canadian-made puppet show. *Mr. Meaty* is about two teenagers who work in a small food court as fast food joint that specializes in grilled and deep-fried meat. The main characters, Parker and Josh, use anything to make their endless jobs exciting. In one episode, they construct a massive collage out of a variety of cooked animal parts, only to get beaten up by a vegetarian wearing a "Meat is Murder!" shirt. In another, they make friends with a girl who orders a hamburger "extra bloody." The show has an instantly catchy theme song with pre-BIG lyrics: "All God's creatures, fresh off the grill! So come on down to Mr. Meaty, where friends meet to eat a meal—but it's all straight up meat. No one's playing around, come see this in personable minds. In response to the perishing of detectors, co-creator Jamie Shannon says, "I think they should take some really unpleasant."

Over a lunch of pork chops and vegetables, Shannon, Rogers and his long-time puppeteer partner, Jason Hoppy, both fit, retelling the obvious—that their show, which is aimed at an older children's audience, is a send-up of suburban life and fast food franchises. Hoppy: "It's a criticism of unhealthy food. Mr. Meaty started in terms of 17 shorts on CBC. *Nickelodeon* picked up the shorts and then asked the creators to create a 12 half-hour series, which will premiere Sept. 22

In the U.S. and Oct. 7 on CBC. Hoppy and Shannon write and direct the show. And they do the puppeteering and voices of Josh and Parker—originally Jim Henson. "We all grew up on *Sesame Street*," says Hoppy, "and one of the things that was so amazing about those puppets is that there were real, ballet musicians. Those puppets were having fun, expressing, playing around. And Henson had, also, a lot of people that copied the style, but they never got that pure right—the honesty."

Hoppy and Shannon's puppets are made from hot foam and don't look like Henson's clay muppets. And instead the series takes a more adult, gross-out, less punning route. The veggie place, there's real cheese and heart in the friendship between the two characters. And there are subtle references to adult writers: George Romero horror movies, *Star Wars*, *The Matrix* (or better yet, *The Matrix*), goths, and a restaurant called "Soy What?" In one episode, Parker eats too many Meaty burgers—marked each with "one eighth of the calories, but a double helping helping of loving growth" inside in the special goth sauce. "Kids can't get the bourgeoisie out," but they'll laugh when Parker morphs into a fleshy-looking girl right before Josh's eyes.

Hoppy and Shannon's show shares some of humor is helped by the fact that they're known each other since Grade 6. After high

school—when they were both trying to be actors—they ran into each other at an audition. It was then they decided to quit acting and run their own business to puppets. "I never had gone to Europe and was inspired by puppet people," says Hoppy. "And we'd both been the kinds of kids who had made puppets and stuff in our basements." First, they created the popular *Grumpy* characters, who were puppet hosts on MTV. Next, they had an award-winning series for preschoolers, *Ramblin'*, on CBC and PBS. But they were being trying to convince themselves that puppets are for an older audience.

Nickelodeon agrees: "Mr. Meaty is one of our highest ratings shows and this show's not even on the air yet," says Courtney Bradford, a network executive. "On the website you can apply for a job at Mr. Meaty. Kids fill out an application and in the end they're given a job at a, like, grease trap drainer or milkshake shaker. They want to imitate what their first job will be like."

Other viewers respond to the meat theme, including one young letter writer who joked, "This show made me eat my cut!" While the petitioners probably wouldn't find that funny, the creators get a kick out of the controversy. The truth is, they're not set to launch anyone. "Most of my friends are vegans," says Shannon. "I was a vegetarian for long time." So they're definitely not in bed with the beef brand (one blogger charged, "But," says Hoppy, "if that's the only thing for me, we'll do it").



ANIMALS AND TOBACCO ACCORDING TO TV They're even building each other off for six decades, becoming one another with planks, poisoning poor birds, smoking cigars and even cutting wires in hell using Tom's green British TV regulator says that's all cool except for the smoking. After a viewer complained that the smoking cut and smoke were lighting up cigarettes and cigars, the regulator, Ofcom, asked a children's channel to remove any scenes that glorified smoking.



ROOTSTEIN was the first to model mannequins after living style icons, capturing their particular facial features and body language

Celebrating a fine body of work

After 50 years, Adel Rootstein's mannequins amount to a cultural history of female beauty

BY LIAANE GEORGE • In the real '70s, it occurred to Adel Rootstein, a South African window dresser employed in the fashionable boutiques of London, that display mannequins were doing a terrible job of representing the glamour and youth culture apparent on the fashion runway. The mannequins had to work with more accuracy, rigid, they thought—nothing like the dumpy, flesh-faced girls on the runway or magazines. So with the help of a sculptor friend, John Taylor, Rootstein launched his own company, Adel Rootstein & Daphne Mannequins, and became the first in sculpture was negative unspooled, live models of the day, capturing the particular facial features, in presenting the body language that made them unique. What Rootstein recognized, says Kevin Appleton, the company's long-time creative director, "was that fashion traditionally does not change the dramatically. What does change is the people who promote it."

Fifty years later, Adel Rootstein, who died in 1991, is widely credited with having revolutionized the way retail fashion is displayed. His company, now run by Appleton, outfits windows for brands ranging from H&M to Polo Fifth Avenue to Chanel. This month, the company held its first retrospective. After decades, Rootstein's mannequins amount to a cultural history of Western beauty—a study in the evolution of the female body as defined by the social and political winds of the day. In the opening section, for example, Rootstein did mockups of go-go girl dancing "70s" girls (Patti Boyd and Maggie London). The models had long, curly legs—ideal for showing off their hips and midsections when being paraded by designers Mary Quant and Jean Muir. "In the '60s, movement came

into everything," says Appleton. "The girls were dancing on the disco, and that was reflected in the mannequins. They weren't just standing there. Adel had them walking down the street or lying on the floor, sitting at chairs. Rootstein's mannequins have always had an inside." In 1964, Rootstein selected Twiggy, then only 14, as one of his muse—inspiring in Rootstein the model whose club fixations and plastic beauty would become the iconic look of the decade.

As the sexual revolution and civil rights movement exploded in the early '60s, few knew—or the idea of it—became fashionable and clothing became loose and comfortable. "The girls' girls came into town," Appleton says in honor of the three Christmas Day blues that were the rage, Rootstein sought of the fine mannequins with nipples. "It caused quite a controversy," says Appleton. "I think in American particularly they thought it was obscene. People were having their heads off." It was also in this era that Rootstein began adopting models of African descent, most famously the African American model Tina Cleveland and Ayoka, the first Japanese model to work with the company of Paris.

In the '80s, as mannequins to make their long hair into male-dominated workplaces, fashion was all about power dressing: busy pantsuits with enormous shoulder pads de-

signed to play down a woman's natural curves. "We did a collection that was very masculine," says Appleton. "It wasn't about body language. The girls had their hands on their hips—but in fact, it was quite aggressive. That's the collection we put on Cohen in." In this same spirit of self-empowerment, Rootstein's mannequins developed muscle tone. "It was the start of the whole Jane Fonda workout craze," says Appleton. "People became fitter so the mannequins reflected that."

The mannequins of the group "You were wealthy and fit" (inspired by models like Jane Fonda and Jodie Kidd) "In the movement, we're doing much more of a curvy woman type," says Appleton. "People are looking for slimmer bodies, and they're not shops natural." We've launched a collection which includes the model Erin O'Connor and Jade Parfitt. The model is a bit more relaxed, but quite glamorous. It's not slenderness. They have much better posture. It might be because they're more health conscious—the whole yoga fitness thing."

The return to curvy is also partly the result of growing real-world concern about "anorexia" models and mannequins, says Appleton. Still, except for in rare instances, shoppers are unlikely to see glass-stained mannequins programmed windows anytime soon. Depreciation in this effort have failed, says Appleton. "Our customers have themselves reflected this." Not really. They want to see an idealistic version. "M"



WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT A NEW MARINE SPECIES Usually scientists discover new marine species of animals in the sea, but *Corophium* exhibits, a sea urchin, has been identified on land. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature recently found that several sea urchins thought to be new species were actually a whole new species. But despite the scientific venue, the sea urchins are no financial bonanza. Last week one such specimen had attracted a bid of US\$400.



WOMEN, Bernice says, are the worst customers. "I'll say I'm Tummy, I'll be your server, and they'll look at me like I'm fuckin' weird."

Here's a tip: Be nice to the waitress

A server with seven years' experience talks about the view from her side of the table

BY BERNICE ECKLER • Waitress Tummy Bernice has seen it all: diners who shove greased rib bones directly onto the table, a man who wanted his glass of white wine uncorked for nearly 40 seconds, a \$10 tip turned into outrage. The 37-year-old Ticonderoga, who now works at a large chain of restaurants that begins with a K, is the author of a new book, *From My Side of the Table*, a collection of short essays about waiting as a server for seven years. She is also a student, working on her master's degree in English. She says the point of the book is merely to let diners know "What's not your personal choice."

The worst customers, she says, aren't the ones you might expect. Bernice admits to having dropped "a lot of things" on people over the years, including a tray of water glasses, but all these diners have been "amazing." Once the spilled blue cheese dressing all over a steak. "We're deeply disappointed," she says. "We're sorry for the rest of the night." On the other hand, seemingly well-off mothers who come in with their children have been charged but by large amounts. Once, after the motherly put ketchup on the table instead of green, the diner's response was "What? Are you stupid or something?"

In the downtown Toronto bistro where she works, I point out a particular problem to Bernice, who has become expert at reading customers. "I can tell that table of two women are going to be here a long time—they are chatting up. They don't want to be bothered every 10 minutes." At another table, she's sure the couple has been together a long time. "I can tell they got along," Bernice has seen "way too many" men screaming at women over dinner, and women screaming at men over

ing dates. Think your server isn't paying attention to your conversation? Think again. "I've overheard so many women saying, 'We're getting a divorce, so girlfriends, I can't tell you,'" Bernice says. "That's really sad—they are crying their eyes out. I run away from those tables." But server "hard of like the fights between couples," she admits. "We stand back and watch."

She can tell from the first question how a diner will tip. Well, most of the time. There was that middle customer who wrote on the bottom of the bill "She's a bitch!" and then left her two dollars. "Really? If you think I'm that bad, why are you only leaving me two dollars?" she asks. Most people won't over-tip her, she says. "I've seen people tip over \$10 per person, they usually tip more than 20 per cent." Unlike most servers, Bernice doesn't mind being asked for someone's bills. "That way, if most people leave five or six dollars, it adds up to more than when they'd leave me a \$10 tip."

Women, she says, are the worst customers. "I'll admit by saying, 'I'm Tummy' I'll be your server tonight, and they'll look at me like I'm fuckin' weird. I'm like, 'Sorry for asking to take your order!'" Or they'll leave their glasses and cellphones on the table and have no room to put plates down. "They'll ask me to see with the tray in my hand and expect

me to somehow move everything. It's like, 'Work with me people!'" Men, she says, are the best. "They'll consider, order alcohol, eat fast, so the turnover is quicker, and if you start with them, they tip better." (Except the time a group of suited-up businessmen came in, ordered drinks, appetizers and large sodas, and went out for a smoke on the patio, never to return.) "We have to pay for most of our own groceries. I get upset because I don't have a lot of money. I'm a server!"

Before you feel too guilty about how you've treated servers in the past, though, Bernice admits servers aren't always angels. She's never seen a server deliberately run a meal because of a customer's rudeness. Igniting on the meal, or worse? But reveals the "first second" rule really does apply at almost every restaurant. Meaning, if your meal falls to the floor, immediately it will be pushed back on the plate. "And sometimes I've seen servers dip their fingers into a coffee cup to see if it's still warm." As for that dreadful coffee order, let's just say you were lucky if you managed to fall asleep that night.

When I mention to Bernice that I always feel guilty over drinks, Diet Coke instead of an alcoholic beverage, she says I shouldn't. "I'd rather people order a Diet Coke than water. What gets me a people who say they're trying to eat healthy and that's why they're ordering a Diet Coke, and then they order a bacon double cheeseburger with fries. It makes no sense."



TODAY'S SPECIAL... GLOBAL WARNING BEER

Created by first microbrewery in Montreal, this beer is made with water from the island's pristine Lac Beauport. Brewed in a 100% organic facility, it's a brown and a pale ale, debuted last month in Cowtown. It has low alcohol content, is brewed with, thanks to locally available water that is been frozen for 2,000 years. But the product may have a limited lifespan: at the current rate of global warming, its water supply will be seriously depleted in 100 years.

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"MAKE YOURSELF look more pregnant to get more sympathy," Hodson advises. "It doesn't mean you're a bad mother, just a smart one."

Clutch your belly. Wince a lot.

Being pregnant's no picnic. So why shouldn't you milk your condition for all it's worth?

BY JULIA MICHELELLI • Belly bump-starting techniques? Might as well get your money's worth. After all, this is the very last time in your life when I'd tell about you, writes British-born author Kate Hodson, whose new book on pregnancy is called *340 It: How to Get More Than a Baby out of the Next Nine Months*. "Know that you can't be too prepared, lazy and demanding and still have a cheerful and contented baby," she writes. "So make yourself look a little bit more pregnant just to get a little bit more sympathy. It doesn't mean you're a bad mother. Just a very smart one."

A woman's second trimester is widely viewed as the halcyon days, says Hodson. "You're missing fear and the gross world as an uncomfortable punch. And, then, that's the first trimester. You feel sick. You're exhausted beyond words. Worst, you don't look pregnant and no one is helping to do all your favors." Hodson suggests several strategies.

• **DECK PREGNANT.** "Tempte visitors with two reasons. To make very tall, very thin women look even more irritatingly gorgeous. And make slightly awkward, slightly chubby women look like you look even more preggo."

• **Stand Pregnant.** "Place your hand in the small of your back with your feet 18 to 24 inches apart. Pregnant women don't actually stand like this but you can be sure that at least one scan-bug will be familiar with overexaggerated made-for-television moves."

• **Talk Pregnant.** Hodson suggests all playing a girlfriend and conversing loudly about your latest prenatal appointment. "Pregnancy isn't always a lot of fun, she says. To counteract the phills, Hodson devotes a chapter to "upgrading your life." For instance, she claims that hotel staff are "al-

ways" looking for reasons to bump people up to the expensive rooms nobody can afford anyway. "Pregnancy is a perfect pretense, so you're actually being doing them a favor by lying it on thick." Hodson admits to being the front desk at pregnancy has brought in latest diaphanous. "If they can give you anything bigger (probably a pithosaurus) then everybody's life is going to be considerably more pleasant." At the airport, make sure to tell the gate stewards you're pregnant, she says, "and that you really need to sit down (preferably in business class) or the way might hurt." In restaurants, sit with someone your newly developed sensitivity to light and noise as you maximize that "fine cut corner benesque with candles will probably do."

At home, pregnancy is the perfect opportunity to have your partner rearrange the furniture. One of the book's most poignant, mention that "your asparagus can't even dwarf husband would work so much better three wishes is the best."

In the "Working Until Your Dues" chapter, Hodson promises that the workplace offers many opportunities to perfect your pregnancy skills. Seek advice from the human resources policy, for instance. "The whole maternity leave and insurance drama thing can be daunting," she says. It's

part of HR's job description to help you with this. "Be sure to pop by regularly." For maximum sympathy, "Never diagnose your bump. Don't even cry," she says. By the end of your second trimester you should "work on appearing pudgy and exhausted." Want to make sure you get a seat on the plane? Hair and makeup should be avoided to only after you've reached your destination, or not at all. Here are several more guidelines.

1. "Capitulate on the fact that most people are mortally afraid of having to map up to a crisis. You don't have to overdo it by anything that suggests that your baby's head is crowing right down and there can only further your cause. Belly clenching is useful, as is the occasional sneeze."

2. "Show off those chunky ankles of yours. If you need any antacid for swallowing some poor version out of your seat, know that standing while in travel will only make it worse your edema. (Edema trumps empiness every time.)"

3. "Stand close to a seated passenger while holding (in the eye level) what seems to be a useless single leg, when you get off the bus you'll have more, rubbing people need to take you over as you're able to your destination." And don't forget that last minute you're pregnant. You owe it to your child. "Has played across your vision (and may stand as a warning to yourself you're gone through but a brown vein and facial is going to look so much better as the album." ■



HOTTEST IMPROVISER **STEPHEN BALDWIN** Rejoice to actors Adam and Billy, Stephen is a well-known performer in his own right. He once played Barney Rubble in a *Beetlejuice* Christmas film. His newest role is that of a rent kid, born-again Christian. BILLY: There's evidence that he's been playing Christ's message of love (he's religious). At his wedding, a new message: "God has called me to go and make disciples of the youth of America. And if you're to stop me, I am going to break your face."

Farewell dignity. It's time to toss some skilletts!



Take recent state fairs and entertainment exhibitions, the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Fair is the domain of fried dough and a few

house that he's actually fun and a truth-telling, overall wearing down in the dark night when called me for one, a need and also a laser, not that I let him get to me. No, sir—he didn't get to me at all. My decision to spend 151 attempting to win to deposit him and his bag for some hole in the water was based wholly on logic and sound judgment, I tell you. As was my ensuing decision to cry like a little girl and, later, to repeatedly shriek, "Had enough!"

I had lost my dignity and my will to live, and it was only 10 years. Much to be said! Hoping the promise of relief turned to the fact of "Whac-a-Mole" I spent all of those who Wince-a-Mole! Mallet in hand, I began my only competitive bid for the clown's position by crushing all competition. By the time the ball sounded, everyone was starting to sit. They were moved like me, but, that's what I like about this. That looks like... oh, never heard of Jesus. Did I forget to mention young children, two of whom were my own. (Thanks to the late parents of the other kids, I now know how profanity sounds with a Boston accent.) It was a shopped moment for years truly. I almost felt guilty during the spasm of my wince-a-purple jet pump her with leopard print with. Cissy jet fountain it's the see that damn down try to make this of this!

Each year, summer's end is heralded by the first sighting of Lancaster's period costumes and, on Martha's Vineyard at least, the organized hauling by women of a heavy kitchen implement: The North Annual Skillet Throw—described by the PA announcer as "open to the fair's women, aged 18 and over"—was the fair's headline event, attracting scores of 100 competitors, all armed in comfortable apparel and sensible shoes except for

Debbie Pincher), celebrating her 12nd birthday, who forgot it was Skillet Throw day and showed up in her own dress. "Maybe they'll give out style pants," she said.

The event took place in the home and even pulled a ring, located within a shell of the main barn and the main barn's most charming byproduct, a massive pile identified with a large sign that read "Marine Pile." You know, just in case there was any confusion. Which, FYI, there wasn't.

It cannot be said that the Skillet Throw was quite as hot a rickety as the previous evening's 60th birthday party for Bill Clinton, which attracted celebrities and also Meg Ryan to the island home of Ted Danson and Mary McCormack. (I RSVP'd my regrets, noting that I hadn't actually been invited.) Still, I suddenly gathered to watch the skillet

its, which is close in weight and feel to the game-day placement. And some women do and feel precise, though less so than I easily I had several conversations that went almost exactly like this one:

A: No!
Q: Really? Because other women say they do.

A: Well, I practiced a little. Maybe half an hour in the backyard.

The skillet must be thrown from behind a chalk line, but beyond that the rules are relaxed to allow for maximum creativity and personal injury, especially to the on-looker judge, who had to be first to find to avoid being thrown. ("You'll not get your pants off you'll be on the hand," the announcer yelled.) A competitor can toss from a stand

At the fair, I avenged the clown incident by crushing the competition in Whac-a-Mole



SADLY, the skillet was unlikely to land on the head of anyone married to Whitney Houston.

and, many thought screaming games, such as "Be the skillet!" and "Don't hurt yourself!" There was much laughter and late summer excitement. That said, the event was not without its shortcomings. For instance, the skillet was almost certain to land on the ground and not on the head of any one married to Whitney Houston.

When you're organizing a Skillet Throw, a lot of thought goes into the skillet. Wooden handles will apparently stop right off. That's why the fair has its skillet custom-made in Maine, not in those cheap, wooden ones of old steel. One competitor, upon completing her two allowed throws, was heard to remark that the skillet was indeed "one heavy little sucker," except she didn't say so.

It is an open secret that competing competitors practice with a No. 10 cast iron skillet

position on the end of the stick. She can grip it by the handle or by the pan. Underhand or overhand, doesn't matter. One woman gave it the classic treatment, spinning and then hurling it. She was chosen for longevity but the distance itself was, let's be blunt, big-time stinky.

In a surprise result, the North Annual Skillet Throw was won by a rookie—Peggy Murphy, 31, of Richmond, Va., who launched the thing an impressive 41 feet, six inches. "I've played in lot of two events, mostly tennis," she said. She paused, then added: "Never one involving skillet before."

Murphy was affixed with a blue ribbon, just like a prize rider (yearbooker—in the context, that's complimentary). I moved in to congratulate her. I remarked on her strong throwing arm. That a thought occurred (I've Pigeon, I said). One to come help out with a little clown problem I'm having? ■



Dave Rector,
General Manager, BC Operations

EPCOR is cleaning up the heavy metals flowing into Howe Sound.

In 2005, the British Columbia government turned to EPCOR to clean-up contaminated water from the abandoned Britannia Mine, one of the largest sources of heavy-metal water pollution in North America. "The copper from two pennies dissolved in an Olympic-sized pool would make it uninhabitable for fish," says David Rector from EPCOR. "At Britannia, more than 450 kilograms of toxic copper metal were pouring into Howe Sound every day. That's enough copper to make 70 million pennies a year." In less than a year, EPCOR developed a new water treatment facility that captures and removes heavy metals. The facility is a vital part of the rejuvenation of the Britannia area, located on BC's famed Sea-to-Sky Highway. This is just one more way EPCOR is providing Canadians with power and water in the most responsible and reliable way. See epcor.ca for more.